MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

21 SEPTEMBER 1981

Steadfastness and Confrontation Front

Official Statement--The Steadfastness and Confrontation Front, in a statement broadcast by Tripoli radio, launched a strong attack on the recent U.S.-Israeli strategic cooperation agreement. The statement, which was issued on 18 September at the conclusion of the Front's summit conference in Benghazi, noted that the front members agreed to pool their resources to support Libya against U.S. "aggression" and discussed at length U.S.-Israeli strategic cooperation, which aims at liquidating the Palestinian question, perpetuating Israeli occupation of Arab territory and making impossible the establishment of a just peace in the Middle East. U.S.-Israeli military domination of the area endangers the Arab nation, the statement added, and turns the region into a U.S. base confronting both the Soviet Union and progressive forces in Asia and Africa. Asserting that the new U.S.-Israeli relationship places the Arabs in a state of direct military confrontation with the United States, the statement said the Steadfastness and Confrontation Front has decided to urge Arab states at their forthcoming summit conference to reconsider their relations with the United States and adopt a unified Arab stand vis-a-vis Arab-U.S. relations. The statement went on to note that the front considers the U.S.-Israeli "alliance" tantamount to U.S. participation in the occupation of Arab territory. The front also called for action to "fight and remove" all forms of U.S. military presence in the Arab area and urged Arab states to use their economic resources, including oil and funds in U.S. banks, to confront the new U.S.-Israeli "alliance". Emphasizing that the Arabs must achieve a strategic balance with Israel in order to attain a "just peace" in the Middle East, the front stressed the need for strengthened Arab-Soviet relations to promote such a balance. Other conference resolutions included a call for Arab countries to adopt "deterrent measures" against Arab countries cooperating with Egypt and Israel as well as a declaration of support for Lebanon and the Palestinian resistance against Israeli interference and attacks.

Al-Qadhdhafi, 'Arafat Remarks--According to a report by Tripoli radio, Libyan leader Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi gave a speech at the Steadfastness and Confrontation Front conference's final session in which he affirmed that the official conference statement is the "minimal limit that we must announce" but does not include everything decided on at the summit. Asserting that with their new agreement the United States and Israel have become politically and militarily indistinguishable from each other, Al-Qadhdhafi said that from now on "we will not differentiate between the U.S. 6th Fleet and the U.S.-Israeli fleet."

In a speech to the conference, reported by the clandestine Voice of Palestine radio, PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat called for the development and consolidation of the front's alliance with the Soviet Union and stressed the importance of the front allying itself with all forces hostile to Zionism, imperialism and racism.

Iranian Stand--According to AFP, Iranian Foreign Minister Huseyn Musavi withdrew from the opening session of the conference after Al-Qadhdhafi had criticized his use of the term "Persian Gulf." AFP quoted Al-Qadhdhafi as saying that the Iranian use of the term "leads us back to Iraq's logic in justifying its war against Iran." However, in an interview with Tehran radio, Musavi denied he had left the session in protest, asserting instead that he had left the hall when the conference went into a closed session in which the Iranians, as observers, were not scheduled to participate. Noting that Al-Qadhdhafi had called for the Gulf to be named the "Islamic Gulf", Musavi said the Libyan leader's remarks implied criticism of Iraq, not of Iran.

Libya

According to DPA, Colonel al-Qadhdhafi said in an interview with the FRG magazine DER SPIEGEL that anyone entering the Gulf of Sidra without Libya's permission "has declared war on us." Al-Qadhdhafi warned the United States against "playing with fire" and asserted that the U.S. naval exercises in the Mediterranean are "very dangerous." The Libyan leader also reiterated his threat to attack U.S. NATO bases in Greece, Italy or Spain should U.S. aircraft carriers from these bases renew their naval demonstrations in Libya's claimed territorial waters. Meanwhile, AFP cited the Kuwaiti daily AL-WATAN as reporting on 20 September that Al-Qadhdhafi will visit Hungary "next week."

Israel-PLO

The Israeli weekly HA'ARETZ cited the editor in chief and chief news editor of the East Jerusalem Arab newspaper AL-FAJR as asserting that if Israeli Prime Minister Menahem Begin were to declare his readiness to meet with PLO Executive Chairman 'Arafat, the latter would respond immediately, just as Begin had responded to Egyptian President Anwar as-Sadat. However, they pointed out that 'Arafat cannot first ask to meet Begin since the PLO's refusal to conduct a dialogue with Israel is its only bargaining chip, which cannot be discarded without a reward. Both editors also said the PLO leadership is ready to accept an independent Palestinian state alongside Israel and no longer insists on the establishment of a "secular democratic state" to replace Israel, as stipulated in the PLO Charter.

Lebanon

Beirut radio reported that 4 people were killed and 27 were injured when a bomb exploded in a west Beirut cinema on 20 September. According to AFP, the "Front for the Liberation of Lebanon from foreigers" claimed responsibility for the blast. The group had similarly claimed responsibility for previous explosions in Sidon and Shikka on 17 September and in Beirut on 18 September.

According to Voice of Lebanon radio, sporadic firing across the contact lines disturbed the security situation in the capital on 19 and 20 September. The radio also reported that Syrian forces shelled Lebanese Army positions in the Sannin area over the weekend and noted that gunmen stole three U.S. Embassy cars in Al-Biqa' Valley on 19 September.

Egypt

Cabinet Governorate Reshuffle--MENA cited the 20 September AL-AHRAM as saying that the Cabinet reshuffle, reported last week by MAY as scheduled for the end of September, is to take place within 2 days along with five or six transfers and new appointments among Egypt's governors. AL-AHRAM described the Cabinet changes as very limited. Another MENA report cited the 21 September MAY as saying that changes are planned in the National Democratic Party Politbureau.

End of Cotton Exports to USSR--MENA reported the 19 September AKHBAR AL-YAWM as saying that starting this year, Egypt will no longer export cotton to the USSR, until now the major buyer of Egyptian cotton. The newspaper said Minister of State for Economy Sulayman Nur ad-Din is to adopt a new cotton export policy that will feature the sale of cotton on the free market, prohibit bartering and specify the currencies acceptable for transactions.

Soviet Expert's Departures--MENA reported that with the departure from Egypt on 19 September of 145 Soviet experts who had been working at aluminum and iron and steel facilities, a total of 551 had left Egypt in the period 17-19 September as a result of the termination of their contracts last week by the Egyptian Government.

Iran

Security Situation--AFP reported that 182 "suspected dissidents" were executed on 18 and 19 September throughout Iran, 101 of whom were killed on Saturday. However, Tehran radio set the figure for those executed on Saturday at 106. AFP, citing a spokesman for Tehran's Evin prison, noted that among those executed on 18 September was an Islamic cleric who had been sympathetic to the Mojahedin-e Khalq. Tehran, Shiraz and Ahvaz radios said that over the last few days a total of 25 leftists had been arrested in various cities. Six government supporters were reported by AFP as among those killed in recent antigovernment attacks in several provinces, while Shiraz radio later mentioned the death of two other government loyalists.

Musavi-Tabrizi, Gilan on Security--In an interview broadcast by Tehran radio on 18 September, Prosecutor General Hoseyn Musavi-Tabrizi called for summary trials and executions of Mohahedin-e Khalq and other rebels. He said those who have taken up arms against the Islamic Republic should be tried in the streets immediately after their capture so that they can be executed the same day. He called on all provincial public prosecutors to follow this practice, which would save the government "wasting" funds on looking after such prisoners in its jails. AFP cited a JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI report on a press conference at which Ayatollah Mohammad Gilani said government opponents wounded in street disturbances should be immediately finished off rather than hospitalized. He said Islam allows for the on-the-spot execution of those participating in armed street demonstrations, although he also acknowledged that, in accordance with the wishes of Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni, government opponents must be handed over to the courts.

Presidential Candidates Approved--An elections headquarters statement carried by Tehran radio on 19 September announced that the Council of Gjardians has declared the following five candidates suitable for the 2 October presidential elections: Education Minister 'Ali 'Akbar Parvaresh, Islamic Republican Party Secretary General 'Ali Khamene'i, Reza Aavere'i, Energy Minister Hasan Ghafurt-Fard and Prime Minister Mohammed Reza Mahdavi-Kani.

Iran-Iraq Conflict

An Iranian Armed Forces communique, broadcast by Tehran radio on 18 September, asserted that in an offensive in the Susangerd area early that morning, Iranian forces recaptured three villages and captured over 50 tanks and personnel carriers as well as 139 Iraqis. While Tehran radio claimed that subsequent Iraqi counteroffensives were routed and that Iranian forces continued to advance in the Susangero area on 19 September, Iraqi Armed Forces communiques, carried by Baghdad radio and INA, claimed that the Iranian attack had been defeated with heavy losses. A communique carried by INA on 19 September said the Iranians lost 157 men, 28 tanks and 1 fighter plane in the Susangerd area but also admitted that the Iraqis had lost 18 tanks in recent fighting. Another communique, broadcast by Baghdad radio on 20 September, claimed that Iraqi forces killed 156 Iranians and knocked out 10 enemy tanks. Although an Iraqi Defense Ministry statement, published in AL-QADISIYAH and reported by INA, asserted that large formations of the Iraqi Air Force have gained mastery of the skies over the battlefront, an Iranian Armed Forces communique, broadcast by Tehran radio, claimed that the Iranian Air Force shot down nine Iraqi MIG's between 15 and 18 September. According to the clandestine Voice of Iranian Kordestan radio, an Iranian Phantum aircraft crashed near Sao Uasht on 17 September.

Afghanistan

BBC World Service cited "reliable" sources in Kabul as reporting that Muslim rebels rocketed the Soviet Embassy on 15 September, destroying part of the commercial wing and killing or wounding a number of Soviet personnel, including the head of the commercial section. The report also said Afghan-Soviet Army units recently launched a major assault against rebels in Konarha Province, near the Pakistani border. Fighting has continued for several days with heavy losses on both sides. Meanwhile, AFP said rebel sources in Pakistan have claimed that their forces regained control of Qandahar last week, forcing Soviet-Afghan units to withdraw to the airport on the edge of the city.

Pakistan

Karachi radio quoted a government spokesman as announcing that in light of the Afghan Government's refusal to extradite to Pakistan the hijackers of a Pakistan International Airlines (PIA) aircraft that was forcibly taken to Kabul in March this year, Pakistan has decided to suspend its biweekly PIA service to Afghanistan as of 20 September. The spokesman accused the NRA of disregarding international conventions on hijacking to which it is a party.

Correction to 17 September Review

Page ii, first paragraph, line six, substitute for sentence beginning: "Al-Qadhdhafi spoke at.... ": "JANA reported that Libyan leader Al-Qadhdhafi also spoke and that he called Al-Mukhtar more than just a martyr of the Arab nation; he was a martyr of the Islamic nation as a whole. Al-Qadhdhafi said this commemoration of Al-Mukhtar's death expresses the unity of the Arab nation and the Islamic nation. He later likened Arab resistance to the United States and Israel to Al-Mukhtar's struggle against Italian fascism, saying that both the United States and Israel have "overstepped the mark" and demonstrated "extreme arrogance." He asserted that because the United States, Israel and Egypt threaten to defeat the Arab nation from the Atlantic to the Gulf, Arabs are "obliged" to "escalate" their actions, to advance rather than retreat. Syrian President al-Asad...."

FBIS DAILY REPORT

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STEADFASTNESS FRONT ISSUES FINAL STATEMENT 18 SEP

NC190817 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 0500 GMT 19 Sep 81

["Text" of statement issued at the conclusion of the 5th summit conference of the Steadfastness and Confrontation Front on 18 September in Benghazi, Libya--read by announcer]

[Text] The 5th conference of the leaders of the Steadfastness and Confrontation Front issued a statement at the end of their meetings yesterday. The following is the text of the statement:

Within the framework of the U.S. aggression against the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah, the announcement of the U.S.-Zionist military alliance, and at the invitation of the leader of the Great 1 September Revolution Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, the Steadfastness and Confrontation Front held a summit conference in the city of Benghazi from 12-19 Dhi al-Qi'dah, 1390, since the prophet Muhammad's death, corresponding to 16-19 September 1981 [as received].

Participating in the conference were Hafiz al-Asad, president of the Syrian Arab Republic and secretary general of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party; Chadli Bendjedid, president of the Democratic and Popular Republic of Algeria and secretary general of the National Liberation Front; Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the Great 1 September Revolution; 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, leader of the (Yemeni) Socialist Party, secretary general of the Central Committee, chairman of the PDRY Presidium of the Supreme People's Council and prime minister; and Brother Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee and commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces.

The summit reviewed the U.S. aggression against the Libyan Jamahiriyah and decided, in implementation of the Steadfastness and Confrontation Front chapter, to pool their resources to support the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah against the U.S. aggression. The summit also reviewed all the stages that the front has passed through on its pan-Arab [qawmiyah] march. The summit discussed in-depth the Arab and international situation and the development of the current Arab-Zionist conflict. The summit discussed the new qualitative step that the United States embarked on in agreement with the Israeli enemy during terrorist Begin's visit to Washington. It was obvious that this strategic and serious transformation in the region is aimed at:

1. Liquidating the Palestinian question, perpetuating the Zionist occupation of Palestine and the Arab territory, entrenching the Zionist entity and foiling any possibility of establishing a just peace because of the mammoth military force and massive strategic possibilities that these agreements provide for the Zionist entity and its expansionist policy and to keep one possibility open before the Arab nation--the possibility of surrender and submission that the Arab nation rejects.
2. The U.S. and Israel military, political and economic domination of the area greatly endangers the national existence of the Arab nation.
3. Making the Arab area an advanced U.S. base against the entire liberation and progressive forces in the world, particularly in Asia and Africa.
4. Turning the Arab area into a U.S. base, leading to a confrontation with the Soviet Union. This threatens world peace and international security. Consequently, this new qualitative relationship between the United States and the Zionist entity puts the Arabs in a state of military confrontation, face-to-face, with the United States. This also threatens the security and safety of the peoples of the area and all mankind.

The summit heard a statement by the Iranian foreign minister, who was a guest of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah. After studying all these positions, the summit adopted a number of resolutions. The following are some of them:

1. To call on the Arab countries at the forthcoming Arab summit conference to adopt deterrent measures against the Arab countries cooperating with the As-Sadat regime and the Zionist entity.

2. A) To consider the United States in a statement of confrontation with the Arab nation and consequently to call on the Arab governments to reconsider their relations with this country in all fields in order to safeguard the pan-Arab interests of the Arab nation.

   B) To place the issue of Arab-U.S. relations on the agenda of the forthcoming Arab summit to adopt a unified Arab stand.

   C) To consider the U.S.-Israeli alliance as a participation by the United States in the occupation of Palestine and other occupied Arab territory.

   D) To consider all forms of U.S. military presence in the Arab homeland as hostile to the Arab nation. Action must be taken to fight and remove it.

3. To take action to use all Arab economic resources, including oil and funds in U.S. banks, to confront the new alliance between the United States and the Zionist entity.
4. To continue action to achieve a strategic balance with the enemy and to call on the Arab countries to reconsider their policies to achieve this goal.
5. The establishment of a just peace in the area that will return to the Arab nation its national rights to Palestine and the other occupied Arab territory requires the achievement of a balance of forces in the area.
6. To continue to strengthen relations with the Soviet Union and to hold talks with it to achieve a qualitative development of relations between the Arab and the Soviet Union in a way that would establish a balance in the area, particularly after the new U.S.-Israeli alliance.
7. To support Lebanon's unity, independence and Arabism, as this constitutes a necessity to safeguard Arab national security and the interests of the fraternal Lebanese people. The conference stresses its firm stand against the Zionist aggression on Lebanon and the Palestinian camps and the Israeli interference in Lebanon's internal affairs aimed at dividing its national unity and hindering the march of national accord. The summit stresses the need to safeguard and support the Palestinian revolution with all resources against the Zionist aggression.
8. The summit conference welcomes the treaty of friendship and cooperation among the PDRY, the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya and Ethiopia because it will boost the struggle against the Camp David agreements, its course and parties.
9. The conference greets the struggle of our people in the occupied land and stresses the need to support their steadfastness in confronting the occupation, the autonomy plot and the Zionist enemy's terrorist measures and violations of the holy places, the building settlements, and the demolition of houses in holy Jerusalem.
10. The conference greets the struggle of our people in Egypt against the as-Sadat regime and announces that it stands by this struggle to overthrow the agent As-Sadat regime, the Camp David accords and the Egyptian-Israeli treaty.
11. To take action to strengthen cooperation in all fields among the Arab, African and nonaligned countries and to support the struggle of liberation movements in Africa, particularly in South Africa, Namibia and the Western Sahara. The conference announces that it stands by Angola against the aggression by the racist regime in South Africa.
12. To emphasize the role of the conference of the Arab people in the confrontation with the imperialist-Zionist-racist challenges, and to give the necessary support to it and to the international secretariat for solidarity with the Arab people and their central cause of Palestine to face up to their responsibilites in the Arab and international arenas.

13. The conference decided to develop the work of the Steadfastness and Confrontation Front in the following fields:

A) To set up the establishments that were approved at previous conferences.

B) To define periodical dates for the meetings of these establishments.

C) To ask the committees to submit plans of action in keeping with the charter and resolutions of the Steadfastness and Confrontation Front.

The brother Arab leaders shared with the Libyan Arab people the celebrations of the 50th anniversary of the martyrdom of 'Umar al-Mukhtar.

'ARAFAT SPEAKS AT STEADFASTNESS FRONT MEETING

NC191015 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic 0645 GMT 19 Sep 81

[Text] Brother Leader Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] delivered a speech on behalf of Palestine during the expanded meeting of the Steadfastness and Confrontation Front summit conference which was held yesterday afternoon.

For 2 hours, Brother Leader Abu 'Ammar presented a comprehensive assessment of the situation on the Palestinian, Arab and international levels. Brother Abu 'Ammar emphasized the dimensions and the perils of the [U.S.]-Israeli strategic cooperation and the hostile intentions this cooperation will entail for the Palestinian people and the Arab forces of steadfastness. He called for the need for taking new action to confront this new danger which he described as representing a new form of U.S. hostility to the Arab nation.

Brother Abu 'Ammar called for a strategic [word indistinct] in all its dimensions, particularly the discrimination between foe and friend. He emphasized the importance of an alliance between foe and friend. He emphasized the importance of an alliance between the Steadfastness Front and all the forces hostile to Zionism, imperialism and racism. He called for the development and the consolidation of the alliance with the friendly Soviet Union.

He then reviewed the achievements of the Steadfastness and Confrontation Front and the importance of the front's continuation of its march toward its aims by resisting and containing the Camp David conspiracy and the parties to it. He lauded the heroic stand which the steadfastness states have adopted together with the Palestinian revolution and the joint [Lebanese national-Palestinian] forces in frustrating the conspiracy.

Brother Abu 'Ammar highly praised the role of Syria, considering it the principal steadfastness front in the Arab East. He emphasized the importance of the Palestinian-Syrian-Lebanese national alliance in frustrating the Israeli and U.S. schemes.

Brother Abu 'Ammar called on the Arabs, particularly the Steadfastness Front, to utilize all their resources and capabilities in confronting the Israeli-U.S. alliance, stressing the importance of bolstering the institutions of the Steadfastness and Confrontation Front and combating all the initiatives and plans aimed at the settlement [of the Palestinians outside their country] and at [giving the Palestinians] an alternative homeland.

He emphasized that the Palestinian revolution will continue to struggle until it achieves its objectives of returning [to the homeland], of self-determination, and of establishing an independent Palestinian state under the leadership of the PLO.

AL-QADHDHAFI 17 SEP SPEECH AT MEMORIAL CEREMONY

LD181732 Tripoli JANA in English 0900 GMT 17 Sep 81

[Text] Suluq, 17 Sep (JANA)--The leader of the revolution made an important speech commemorating the fifteenth anniversary of the martyrdom of 'Umar al-Mukhtar.

After greeting the leaders of the Steadfastness and Confrontation Front, the leader asserted, "Libyan men and women cannot forget this hour, when brother leaders are sharing with them the commemoration of this anniversary. Whatever we say," the leader said, "we can never express our endless gratitude to these brothers."

The leader continued, "I would like to express my boundless gratitude and appreciation for their participation in this ceremony, in appreciation of all Libyans and of me personally. This is the biggest glorification for the sacrifices of the Arab nation of whose history these brother leaders remain faithful."

He added, "attending the celebrations carries a great meaning. It carries meanings of loyalty to the sacrifices of this nation where hundreds thousands of martyrs fell, where Algeria gave more than one million martyrs and Palestine has been offering to this very day many martyrs. Similarly, Iran is still offering many martyrs. Syria has made great sacrifice in every inch of the Golan Heights and is still making further sacrifices and Aden, too where blood flowed and martyrs fell in the war of its liberation from British colonialism."

The leader added: "We stand here before the remains of one of these martyrs. In reality, this confirms our loyalty to the history of this nation and our gratitude to the sacrifices of its martyrs in assertion of the unity of this nation."

The leader continued: "'Umar al-Mukhtar is not merely a Libyan martyr but an Arab one whose anniversary is celebrated by the dynamic Arab force and by all the Arab masses."

The leader of the revolution added, "Those who do not join us in the Steadfastness and Confrontation Front are not part of the dynamic force which is capable of standing in the face of aggression and is not part of the dynamic force which is capable of facing and confronting such an aggression." He asserted, "This is the steadfastness of the dynamic force within the Arab nation, a force rejecting humiliation and defeat and is the steadfastness of the dynamic force which expresses the genuineness of the Arab nation, which takes 'Umar al-Mukhtar as its own martyr and not merely a Libyan martyr even though he came from a small tribe in Tubruq region and is buried in a modest grave. He fell in the battle with no crown and no scepter. But 'Umar al-Mukhtar is actually more significant than mere titles of tribes...and even more so that crowns and scepters. He is an expression of the spirit of sacrifice and martyrdom for freedom."

Colonel al-Qadhdhafi said: "The presence of Iran at this occasion and the speech delivered by Iran's foreign minister in fact expresses the spirit of the Iranian Islamic revolution. For, 'Umar al-Mukhtar who is bigger than simply a martyr of the Arab nation, is the martyr of the whole Islamic nation who gave his life willingly for the sake of freedom and faith. Moreover, the Arab gathering at this occasion is an expression of Arab unity, as the Arabs are one people and one nation." He added that he would like to take the opportunity to say that esteem and prestige for 'Umar al-Mukhtar to be growing larger and larger, and no longer confined to the small town of Suluq. [sentence as received]. He is now embraced by a large homeland, the Arab homeland, which is the grave of 'Umar al-Mukhtar. He is not only being mourned by his close relatives, but by the entire Arab nation for he is its martyr. This testifies that we are mourning the martyrs of this Arab nation as a whole.

Colonel al-Qadhdhafi added: "'Umar al-Mukhtar's anniversary is now a symbolic funeral for 1.5 million martyrs who fell on the soil of Algeria for the sake of this nation. It is also a symbolic funeral for the martyrs of Palestine and Syria and all those of Yemen and the Islamic revolution in Iran."

He added "Our commemoration of this event and what it symbolises and signifies urges us to undertake positive stands during our lifetime, affirms and asserts the unity of the Arab nation and the Islamic nation too."

Colonel al-Qadhdhafi affirmed, "While the dynamic force in the Arab nation commemorates its martyrs, As-Sadat commits sacrilege against thousands of Egyptian martyrs and denigrates the great sacrifices of the Egyptian people over the sands [and] mountains of Sinai and Palestine and those across the Arab arena."

The leader added, "As-Sadat has ignored the martyrs and their struggles and has treacherously stabbed the struggle of the Egyptian people when he declared that there was no cause to fight for, though it was him who sacrificed the lives of thousands of Egyptians in the 1973 war only to backtrack and announce his recognition of Israel and its land and to normalize his relations with Israel and promote advertisement of Israeli eggs."

He added, "With his shameful recognition of Israel As-Sadat ignored the sacrifices made by the Egyptian people and their martyrs in 1948, 1956, 1967 and 1973. He has recognized the Israelis and ignored the thousands who died in Sinai and whose families have been reduced, made homeless and whose children were made orphans for the sake of the sacred cause and for fending off the aggression against the Arab nation."

The leader continued: "We are living in times of flagrant contradictions. There are those who commit sacrilege against the sacrifices of the nation, and who ignore the boundless endeavours in defense of its pride, integrity and independence. On the other hand there is the dynamic force which makes us trust this nation and trust its ability to surpass these tragic times endured by our nation."

He added, "We, in the Steadfastness and Confrontation Front with Iran on our side today, glorify today one of the martyrs of this nation, expressing our appreciation and glorification for all the martyrs of this nation. Our tribute to this particular martyr of this nation is an expression of our appreciation and glorification of all the martyrs of this great nation to whom we bow our heads." He continued, "Those who have become devoid of all values and are afflicted, fatally, with ingratitude are now attempting to ridicule all our great sacrifices."

The leader added, "We, Confrontation and Steadfastness Front are now standing respectfully before the remains of 'Umar al-Mukhtar, despite the passage of fifty years of his martyrdom. We are here to illustrate that we will not forget a martyr who fell 50 years ago, and we will not forget the martyrs of 1948, 1956, 1967 and 1973. We will not forget the martyrs of July, An-Nabatiyah, Beirut, Aden, Algeria and Iran. We are here glorifying the martyrs of this nation and will not squander effort exerted by all Libyans for the sake of this nation, for its integrity and pride. When we celebrate the 50th anniversary of the martyrdom of 'Umar al-Mukhtar, we glorify martyrdom for freedom."

The leader said, "The blood that flew for freedom is sacred blood. We in the land where the martyrs' blood flew pay homage before the remains of a martyr who lost his life for freedom."

"With this stand," the leader added, "we would like to strengthen hope in the hearts of the millions of Arabs who are struggling against death now and would like to strengthen the faith in this nation which the enemy is trying to drive to despair.

We would like at this moment to respond morally against the tendency of surrender and treason against the Arab cause and the squandering of its sacrifices."

The leader added, "If they choose to ridicule the nation's martyrs and sacrifice, what justification have we got to ask a soldier to die in any battle on any front. Soldiers face death because they believe martyrdom is a great thing."

Speaking about honoring the martyrs who fall for the freedom of their land, the leader said, "The soldier who falls in battle without having his name, number, or unit announced will get a memorial. The unknown soldier memorial is for every soldier who dies unknown in the whole world."

In place of 'Umar al-Mukhtar tomb in Banghazi, we shall establish a memorial for the unknown soldier so that unknown soldiers who expect to die in battle, unknown, insignificant and with small ranks could consider the memorial as theirs.

Colonel al-Qadhdhafi said, "The great esteem and respect in which martyr Al-Mukhtar is held infuses and enhances martyrdom within us and within the coming generations."

He added, "The speeches made today and all these ceremonies which will be preserved for posterity in museums in books and curriculae so that man might feel in the future the great value of martyrdom, and that the sacrifice he offers has a sense of value. 'Umar al-Mukhtar who did not have any rank or position or money, leads us to stand in homage, as we cherish the great values, which are neither crown, scepter, position or money."

Colonel al-Qadhdhafi said, "The king of Italy had issued a decree 2183 in 1922 granting 'Umar al-Mukhtar a salary of 1000 Italian lira and giving him a post. But 'Umar al-Mukhtar, who was very poor, refused the salary and post in great contrast with Idris Sannoussi who accepted through the Treaty of Ar-Rajmah, opulence and wealth showered on him and took refuge in 5 American bases, one British base and 20,000 Italian troops, the remnants of the fascist, while mercenaries and fools cheered him.

But when the time came we began to write the authentic history of our country and the struggle of our people. The world now witnesses with us the true value of Idris Sannoussi.

The world laughed at Sannoussi and mocked his deeds and behavior, while at the death of 'Umar al-Mukhtar, massive demonstrations swept the Arab world from the Atlantic to the Gulf and covered the countries of the Islamic world and many streets, schools and squares were named after him to commemorate his name, heroism, struggle and sacrifices. In contrast, Idris Sannoussi was met with shame and disgrace and fell in disgrace and defeat because he sought opulence and high position. In fact, he is dead, while 'Umar al-Mukhtar still lives in our hearts."

The leader added "after the Ar-Rajmah disgraceful treaty, Idris was given the title of prince by the Italians. During World War II, the English promoted him to a king. Idris used to belittle all Libyans while the Italians backed and applauded him because it was they who gave him the title of prince. We disregarded and attached no importance to him, and we carried out the revolution without regarding him as a king or feeling his existence as a king, for he had no value within our souls. We raised our arms to his face and exposed him for what he was on the eve of the Great 1st of September Revolution. He left without a crown, devoid of all value and rootless."

Colonel al-Qadhdhafi added: "We greet the Libyan people with all its humble folk, like 'Umar al-Mukhtar who made his mark on life, history and glory...lit the torches of Arab unity...sacrificed for our future and values...lit the path for the revolutionaries who are now fighting in Palestine and everywhere for unity...for transformation...and the eradication of the imperialist-made map of the one Arab nation."

Colonel al-Qadhdhafi continued "we do not deny the sacrifice made by our forefathers for this nation... We should glorify this sacrifice and make it part of our tradition shared by future generations which will convey significance and value to life and sacrifice."

The revolution's leader went on to point out the great gulf separating Idris Sannousi who made his mark by a shameful treaty and the martyr 'Umar al-Mukhtar who left a message inciting struggle against the invading fascists, prepared plans for their defeat and urged the fight against them. He said: "This is correct action...action must be stepped up against the enemy's aggression and force used to stop further encroachment. Our present situation fits the description. For both America and Israel have overstepped the mark thereby expressing extreme arrogance."

He affirmed: "There is a real danger threatening the identity of the Arab nation from the ocean to the Gulf. If Libya is to fall tomorrow before As-Sadat and Israel, then Algeria will become the front trench in confronting the Israelis, As-Sadat and the Americans and if Algeria was to fall, God forbid, then this front of the Arab nation will collapse up to the ocean. And if Syria is to fall, the Israelis will be able to advance to the Gulf without meeting any resistance and hoist their flag over Mecca and Medina."

He continued: "Given this fact, we are obliged in self defense and preservation of our identity to escalate our actions which history testifies that it is the correct action and the right course. Retreat has no bounds and advance is the positive action."

The leader stressed the importance of the alliance between the national dynamic forces in confronting the colonial tide and imperialist onslaught during this stage. In this context the leader referred to the strategic alliance which was formed between the Arab and Ethiopian nations to confront the common enemy of the Arab nation, her dynamic forces and the Ethiopian nation.

He said: "This alliance is the alliance of friends in confronting the common enemy."

The leader referred to the cowardly position of Idris Sannoussi who escaped from Libya after the fascist coup in Italy and the decision of the Italian fascist to invade Libya and the later attempts of the mujahideen, led by 'Umar al-Mukhtar, to bring him back to the homeland and his rejection to do so.

In his reference to the position of Idris Sannoussi, the leader mentioned the historic memorandum signed by 3 of the prominent mujahideen: 'Umar al-Mukhtar, Yusuf Ibrahim al-Musmari and 'Ali Hamid al-Ibaydi and which they sent to Ahmed al-Sharf explaining the political situation in Libya generally and Al-Jabal al-Akhdar region in particular and what went on between them and Idris Sannoussi who escaped to Egypt.

The leader read out the text of this historic document which reveals that Idris Sannoussi refused to offer any assistance to the mujahideen. After failing to get Idris to help them they returned to the homeland and vowed never to surrender before the enemy and that they would continue to defend themselves, religion and their land to the last drop of their blood.

The leader said, "his position was the true and factual position of the mujahideen." He contined: "We have started to write history anew, glorifying our ordinary martyr and exposing those who cheat on the masses and distort the history of this people."

The leader called upon the municipality of Banghazi which embraces the remains of the great 'Umar al-Mukhtar to snactify the spot where his remains lie, and never to allow the feet of the enemies to trample upon it and to teach their sons and grandsons one generations after another the sacrifice, endeavour and martyrdom of 'Umar al-Mukhtar, affirming that it would be a shame to let the land on which 'Umar al-Mukhtar was buried fall under the feet of any aggressor.

For it is better for the masses to follow 'Umar al-Mukhtar's fate instead of living to see the enemy desecrating his tomb. For the life of the masses in this case will have no value at all. The leader said: "The town of Suluq has become great in this historic day. It is a great honor for the tribes which live in Suluq and which had fought alongside 'Umar al-Mukhtar, to have 'Umar al-Mukhtar buried in Suluq." He called upon them to be loyal to this martyr and follow his case. He said, "Glory and eternity for 'Umar al-Mukhtar. Glory and eternity for the martyrs. Glory and eternity for ordinary people."

VOP: ZIONIST ENEMY BEHIND BEIRUT THEATER EXPLOSION

JN201911 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1845 GMT 20 Sep 81

[Text] Beirut--The Zionist enemy perpetrated another barbaric crime this afternoon within the framework of a series of explosions being witnessed by the northern and southern parts of the national arena with the purpose of sabotaging the security march in the national areas. At 1540 there was a violent explosion at the Salwa theater in the Al-Barbir quarter. The theater was full of people on the weekend. Just as the enemy sought from entrusting its agents to plant this charge and according to preliminary reports, seven were martyred and a large number injured. Fire broke out in the theater, but the fire brigade has extinguished it. A front calling itself the front for the liberation of Lebanon from foreigners has claimed responsibility for this criminal operation, the same front as that linked to the explosions in Beirut, Tripoli and Shikka during the past week.

These operations--which are being carried out by the Zionist enemy--constitute an application of statements made by several Zionist leaders to the effect that they have methods that they have still not used to strike at the Palestinian and Lebanese peoples.

Political observers expect the enemy to carry out similar attempts, which behooves the national Lebanese and Palestinian masses and institutions to exercise more caution and alertness and to respond to the security arrangements being made by the concerned institutions in the national arena.

RALLY FOR SOLIDARITY WITH EGYPTIAN PEOPLE HELD

NC191009 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic 0645 GMT 19 Sep 81

[Text] Speaking at a rally for solidarity with the Egyptian people against As-Sadat's suppressive measures held at the Beirut Arab university yesterday, Fatah Central Committee Member Brother Majid Abu Sharar said: We stand today in solidarity with the people of Egypt, the people of 'Abd an-Nasir, who generously and courageously made sacrifices not only for the sake of his national causes but also for the pan-Arab causes, particularly the first Arab cause: The cause of Palestine.

He added: Our solidarity with the Egyptian people who are resisting the treason of As-Sadat, who has signed the Camp David agreements with the United States and Israel. He pointed out that the battle has now expanded beyond the territories of Egypt, Lebanon and Palestine. The battle is now in an intertwined area extending from the [Atlantic] Ocean to the [Arab] Gulf.

Also speaking at the rally was Brother Ahmad al-Khatib, commander of the Arab Army of Lebanon, who denounced the suppressive campaigns which As-Sadat has launched against the masses of the Egyptian people.

GULF AFFAIRS

ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT CITES FEAR OF ALLIANCE TREATIES

PM180955 London ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 17 Sep 81 pp 1, 2

[ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT Gulf Bureau report: "Important Contacts Between Gulf States: Treaties Expose Area Security to Danger and Czechoslovakia Acting as Soviet Front"]

[Excerpts] Official Gulf sources in Kuwait yesterday expressed their great concern over the future of security and stability in the Arab Gulf Region in the light of the Treaty of Cooperation and Friendship between South Yemen, Libya, and Ethiopia, the treaty between Ethiopia and Czechoslovakia and also in the light of what may come out of the Confrontation and Steadfastness Front summit conference, which began meetings in Libya yesterday.

These sources told ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT that important consultations have taken place between officials of the Gulf states in the past 2 days on the latest developments and their expected effect on the area as well as the connection between these developments and the tripartite alliance concluded last month.

The source has revealed that some of the Gulf states believe that altogether the treaties constitute a single quadripartite agreement in which Czechoslovakia is acting on behalf of the Soviet Union, which so far has not signed a friendship treaty with Libya but is linked by friendship treaties with Aden and Addis Ababa.

These countries believe that Czechoslovakia is required in this regard to play a role that Moscow, as a superpower, might be embarrassed to play openly for fear of U.S. reactions.

First, that Kuwaiti efforts to mediate between Aden and Muscat will stop. These efforts faced many difficulties in fact which brought them to a temporary halt, but without losing hope of resuming them.

Second, that the efforts for unity between both parts of Yemen will falter because San'a' is unhappy with Aden's new political course, which is why the South Yemeni president went to Ta"izz to explain his views to North Yemeni President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih.

The sources said that the Gulf countries agreed in this regard to make further efforts in order to find out more details about the cooperation treaties concerned and to continue consultation among them so that the whole case will be put before the next Gulf summit in Riyadh. The sources fear that the Soviet Union might exploit the agreement of strategic cooperation between the United States and Israel to launch a counterattack in the Middle East in order to gain new positions.

KUWAIT

SHAYKH JABIR ON NEED TO BUILD RELATIONS WITH EAST BLOC

LD210846 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0704 GMT 21 Sep 81

[Text] The amir of Kuwait, Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad as-Sabah, says in press statements published here today that he will ask the Gulf Cooperation Council members, which include his country and five other Arab Gulf states, to establish relations with countries of the socialist bloc in order to bring about a balance between East and West in their respective foreign policies.

In remarks he made to Kuwaiti editors on the aircraft carrying him back home last Saturday from a 13-day tour to Turkey and the four communist countries Bulgaria, Romania, Hungary and Yugoslavia, he said that his visits are intended to underline the neutrality of Kuwait's foreign policy.

Shaykh Jabir also said that the objective of this tour was also to reply to allegations that Kuwait, after joining the Gulf Cooperation Council it had formed with Saudi Arabia, the UAE, Qatar, Bahrain and Oman, would move in the bandwagon of American policies and that its foreign policy would take on a Western hue or generally follow the Western line.

Kuwait is the only member state of the council that has had full relations with the Soviet Union and the socialist camp since 1963. None of the other five states has relations with any of the Soviet bloc members.

The Kuwaiti leader says that he will ask the leaders of the five other states of the Cooperation Council to establish relations with the socialist bloc states in the framework of a balanced policy between the East and West because we have no fear whatsoever of establishing close ties with all, especially since we are small states in need of winning over friends from all over the world.

This rules out that the establishment of such relations will lay open Kuwait and the Gulf zone to an ideological invasion. He says that Kuwait will not be center of that and that our region has [words indistinct] that prevents the infiltration of such ideas: our holy religion, the close knit ties in families and our social traditions render the atmosphere of our region uncongenial to such ideas, in addition to the fact that we are states living in cohesion and supporting each other, and not divided, like other states.

Shaykh Jabir said that he decided to make a tour to the four communist countries and Islamic Turkey in order to stress, in practical terms, that the Kuwaitt line has not changed, and that our policy is still one of adherence to its principles emanating from our objective beliefs concerning the national interest and the interest of the region.

He also said that the aim of the tour was to stress the internationally based principle of Kuwait's foreign policy, as we are biased neither to the East nor to the West, but we seek the friendship of all because every country in the world needs another country.

The amir said that the balanced foreign policy of Kuwait strengthens our independence and sovereignty, and helps in entrenching stability in the region, and keep it out of international conflicts.

The amir says that the balance he has in mind does not involve just political dealings in the international domain, but also economic dealings with the states of both the East and West camps.

He added that, during this tour, Kuwait bought state bonds of the four communist states he visited in the context of our economic cooperation with them, but he did not mention the value of these bonds.

Shaykh Jabir expects his visit to the communist states to cause him some inconvenicence, but he did elaborate on the nature of such inconvenience. Replying to a question on this, he said that, as a matter of fact, this visit will cause me some inconvenience, but for the sake of Kuwait everything is acceptable: our policy is constant and known to our brothers and friends, and we are following a line that we will not be diverted from. Whenever we are convinced of the need for a decision, whether at home, or at the Arab or the international level, we must make that decision and start implementing it with the help of God, without fearing any trouble.

He stressed that the six Cooperation Council states will strive at the summit meeting due to be held in Saudi Arabia next November to coordinate their eocnomic projects so that there may be no contradiction between one project and another in the region.

He also said that these states will endeavor to unify their policies of investment abroad as much as possible, given the common interest in such a move.

SAUDI ARABIA

'UKAZ DENOUNCES U.S.-ISRAELI STRATEGIC COOPERATION

PM180921 Jidda 'UKAZ in Arabic 15 Sep 81 p 1

[Editorial: "America Playing With Fire"]

[Excerpts] As it customarily demonstrates in its view of the Arab and Palestinian problem, the U.S. administration does not see beyond its nose. It has committed a grave "strategic mistake" with the agreement on strategic cooperation which resulted from the international terrorist Begin's meeting with President Reagan.

The United States has thereby confirmed openly and without any doubt its total and absolute bias in favor of Israel--a factor that is bound to hinder the peace process.

Although His Highness Amir Fahd outlined for the United States, the Arabs and the whole world the eight principles leading to a solution that would be firm and lasting, and when the kingdom's leaders have incessantly urged the United States to change its policy, to be biased not in our favor but in favor of the principles of justice and peace in the area, we find the United States, because of shortsightedness and submission to brainwashing by the Zionist elements that have infiltrated every center of U.S. decisionmaking, committing a grave and strategic mistake by entering an alliance for which it has no need in the first place.

The Zionist enemy will soon mix his expansionist objective with the U.S. objectives so as to make it difficult to distinguish between the two, and the principal danger to the area will become not Israel alone but primarily the United States.

We say that the United States does not see beyond its nose because, if it did, it would have been aware of the crisis of confidence between itself and the Arabs caused by its blind bias in favor of Israel and would not have entered into this alliance, which will confirm doubts and suspicions and will even increase mistrust as to the U.S. desire to seriously seek a just and comprehensive peace in the area.

If the U.S. administration could see beyond its nose--which is difficult, because all the U.S. centers of information and study depend on cooperation between Mossad (Israeli intelligence) and the U.S. CIA--it would have realized that it is difficult to understand how it can reconcile its absolute support of Israel, soaking the U.S. taxpayer with its fear of Soviet infiltration in the area. The United States must understand that the Soviet Union infiltrated the area only because of the U.S. administration's obstinacy and the total U.S. bias in favor of Israel.

While we have denounced the suspect alliances in the area--alliances backed by the Soviet Union--we find that U.S. stupidity expressed in this alliance with Israel is consecrating a concept which we reject and which encourages the return of the era of dangerous alliances to the area, which would make the area a potential field of international conflict, which it can do without.

The United States must realize that the concept of peace as we understand it cannot be achieved through terror and intimidation or through its alliance with Israel. This would alert the Soviets to indulge in greater tampering and interference in the area. It would also increase polarization and counter-polarization processes and, consequently, turn the area into a potential scene of international conflict, which is not in the interest of the United States or the peoples and countries of the area.

The peace that we visualize cannot be achieved by the methods used by the United States against the peoples of the area, in order to make them despair of the possibility of ever reaching a joint understanding on practical steps to serve the cause of peace in the area. Neither the United States nor Israel will succeed through this alliance in perpetuating the status quo, that is the continuing occupation of the Arab territories and the usurpation of the Palestinian people's rights.

The present status quo is rejected. This was what Amir Fahd told Alexander Haig, because it is based on injustice and on Israel's seizure of land by force and refusal to comply with the UN resolutions.

We strongly express our denunciation of this alliance, because it is an alliance of injustice and is suspect and because we reject alliances that draw the area into the arena of conflict between the big powers.

Let the United States realize that by this alliance it has not expelled the Soviet danger but rather brought it close to the area, because Israel, backed by unlimited U.S. support, will continue its attack and will thus involve Washington with it--something that will destabilize the area and encourage alliance with other big powers.

This is in the interest neither of the area nor of international peace nor of anybody.

By this alliance the United States is considered to have aligned itself with Israel against the Arabs and against the rights of the Palestinian people. So, will it pause to think and go back in order to mend what its shortsightedness has ruined?

UAE

SEVERAL NEWSPAPERS VIEW U.S.-ARAB RELATIONS

GF181239 Abu Dhabi EMIRATES NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 0823 GMT 18 Sep 81

[Excerpts] Abu Dhabi, 18 Sep (ENA)--The UAE press today continues to comment on the U.S.-Israeli strategic alliance, stressing the need for Arab solidarity in the face of such schemes.

The Dubayy newspaper AL-BAYAN says: One serious step toward effective Arab solidarity is better than all the comments and statements denouncing the U.S.-Israeli strategic alliance, which does not entail anything new in the relationship between U.S. strategy and its instrument, Israel.

In its editorial the Abu Dhabi newspaper AL-ITTIHAD warns of the dangers of U.S. policy in the region.

Referring to the statement by Secretary of State Alexander Haig yesterday that the United States is seeking to establish intensive strategic cooperation with Israel, Egypt and Saudi Arabia and a number of other states, AL-WAHDAH says editorially: It was clear from the very moment the U.S.-Zionist strategic alliance was proclaimed that the United States is making every effort to include Arab states other than the As-Sadat regime in it. The United States is seeking to achieve this by various means, including reference to a Soviet threat that requires a constant U.S. presence close to the scene of events in the form of bases for the Rapid Deployment Force distributed in an arc from the Gulf of Suez to the Gulf, thus placing our region at the mercy of a complete siege by forces lying in wait to intervene and control the region and its resources on the pretext of protecting them.

AL-WAHDAH continues: It was also clear that this region, which U.S. politicians want us to believe is facing a Soviet threat, is not concerned by this illusory threat. Indeed, its leaders have asserted that the real threat to the region comes from Israel, which is allied with the United States, and the threat represented by the U.S. military presence which is dragging the region to the arena of international conflicts in which it has no interest.

AL-WAHDAH says in conclusion: We are awaiting an official Arab response from the countries to which Haig referred. In it they should, as they have done in the past, stress that such an alliance exists only in the minds of the Americans and that the Arab Gulf countries insist on keeping far away from all international conflicts and on purging this area of all foreign presence in the form of bases for the so-called rapid deployment. They must also insist on the principle that their security is their concern and that all other claims are blatant interference in the affairs of these countries and threats to their survival.

The Ash-Shariqah newspaper AL-KHALIJ accuses the United States and Israel of being responsible for the explosion outside the headquarters of the joint forces in Sidon yesterday, "because it directly followed Menahem Begin's return to occupied Palestine. Begin agreed with Reagan to establish a U.S.-Israeli alliance whose field of operations would be the Mediterranean, the Gulf and the Indian Ocean and which would strengthen the Israeli enemy and make it capable of creating wide-scale terrorism against the Arabs so as to liquidate the Palestinian cause."

In its editorial AL-KHALIJ calls on the Arab countries to confront the U.S.-Israeli strategic alliance by adopting a serious stand on Lebanon, the Arab Maghreb or the Gulf "because the U.S.-Israeli policy of terrorism will be on a much bigger scale than the incidents in Al-Fakihani or Sidon, and the U.S.-Israeli alliance will give Israel a free hand to send its planes to the furthest spot in the Gulf."

AL-KHALIJ says the best way to save the Arab people from U.S-Israeli terrorism it to "firmly defend the Arab people by equating the United States with Israel and act accordingly in light of pan-Arab political, economic and military factors."

AL-FAJR LAUDS SAUDI PLAN FOR BRITISH PLANE STUDY

GF200912 Abu Dhabi EMIRATES NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 0710 GMT 20 Sep 81

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 20 Sep (ENA)--The newspaper AL-FAJR today calls on Arab countries to review their political and economic ties with the United States as the least they can do to find a way out of the circle formed by U.S. monopolies, which "absorb a great deal of our oil surplus."

In its editorial today, AL-FAJR lauds Saudi Arabia's plan to study the possibility of buying British radar control planes similar to the U.S. AWACS planes. AL-FAJR says that such a deal would not only be a financial loss for the United States but would also inform the United States that the Arabs will not continue to await a U.S. decision to grant them a means of defense or progress and that the Arabs are capable of expanding their sphere of relations. AL-FAJR says that this will lead us to other gains when discussing fundamental Arab issues, the most important of which is the Palestinian question, because by winning over European public opinion we will have expanded the dialogue. The paper calls for a positive approach in this regard in order to achieve further gains for Arab causes.

PDRY

'ALI NASIR ON SUCCESS OF STEADFASTNESS FRONT CONFERENCE

EA191532 Aden Domestic Serivce in Arabic 1230 GMT 19 Sep 81

[Summary] Chairman 'Ali Nasir Muhammad arrived in Bulgaria today after taking part in the fifth pan-Arab Steadfastness and Confrontation Front summit conference, which ended last night in Libya.

"Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad expressed his gratification at the success of the fifth conference, the results and resolutions of which will allow the entrenchment of the front's position and the strengthening of its role in consolidating the streadfastness of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah, which is waging an heroic struggle against imperialist and Zionist challenges and conspiracies.

"In a statement before leaving Benghazi, Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad stressed that democratic Yemen will always remain one of the firmly established citadels of steadfastness and confrontation and will strive to implement the conference resolutions in order to ensure the safeguarding of the gains of the Arab national liberation movement and the reinforcement of its steadfastness in confronting the dangers that threaten the peoples of our Arab nation.

"Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad stressed that democratic Yemen will continue to strengthen its brotherly and militant relations with the brotherly Libyan people and the Great 1 September Revolution on the basis of struggle against imperialism, Zionism and reaction and for the victory of the just causes of our Arab nation."

YAR

BRIEFS

MICROWAVE PROJECT--San'a', 19 Sep (GNA)--Implementation of the microwave project for communications among Al-Hudaydah, Al-Mukha and Ta'izz--which is being carried out within the framework of the Saudi-YAR Coordination Council--begins on 1 November. 'Abdallah al-Kayusi, director of telecommunications in the YAR, said that the project, which is being implemented in cooperation with the Saudi projects bureau in the YAR, will safeguard an important part of the YAR's internal and external communications. Referring to the regional microwave telecommunications project that will link Saudi Arabia, the YAR, the PDRY, Djibouti and Somalia and will safeguard telephone communications and radio and television transmissions, he said the project was the fruit of consultations between Saudi and YAR officials. Al-Kayusi said that the most appropriate tenders from international companies to implement the regional microwave telecommunications project will be selected. He added that the project will be completed in early 1984. [Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 1202 GMT 19 Sep 81 GF]

MAY INTERVIEWS AS-SADAT ON SEDITION 21 SEP

NC202324 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2210 GMT 20 Sep 81

[Text] Cairo, 20 Sep (MENA)--President Anwar as-Sadat has stated that the recent measures were not aimed at protecting the regime, but their purpose is to strike at the lack of discipline in the streets, universities, churches and everywhere about which the people are complaining. The president said: We need to dedicate every minute to work and production, not for clowning and for fooling naive people, as the plotters who wanted to kindle sectarian sedition were doing.

In an interview with the newspaper MAY, to be published in tomorrow's edition, President as-Sadat announced that no new parties will be established and no new papers published until we achieve a document in which people can express their opinions about a sound way for the practicing of democracy. He also announced that he will strike at rancor, but he will not strike at democracy. The reason is that democracy is not at fault, but the persons who exploit democracy for their ambitions and grudges are to blame.

About the president's vision of the way to check the phenomenon of the lack of discipline, the president says: I have asked our institutions to check the lack of discipline, and I have left it for every official to determine for himself the way to fulfill this objective. Furthermore, every minister knows best about cases of a lack of discipline within his ministry. Consequently, this minister will be able to check and eliminate these cases.

As far as the universities are concerned, the president says in his interview with the newspaper MAY: It is imperative for the lack of discipline and attempts to impose hooliganism and demonstrations and to destroy the window glass and furniture of universities to disappear. I urge the Cabinet to submit to the People's Assembly legislation which will empower the university to punish guilty students.

The president says: Mosques and churches are for worshipping only, and there will be no place in the university for a student who exploits religion. We say "no" to those who are asking us to use religion fraudently. We say "no" to those who are asking us to open the radio and television progrmas with the verse which says: "Every act of hearing or of seeing or of [feelings] the heard will be inquired into [on the day of reckoning]." just as they previously did in the newspaper of the Muslim Brotherhood. To these people we say: We will not be fraudulent. If someone dislikes a show on television, let him not watch it. However, this person has no right whatsoever to demand that this show be banned from the screen and thus deprive others from seeing it.

About the opposition, the president wonders: What prevents the National Democratic Party [NDP] from taking interest in food security. The government and the party are seeking to fulfill this objective, only for the leaders of the Labor Party to mock this quest and say that the NDP is preoccupying itself with chickens and eggs. Is this not better than for the party to preoccupy itself with hollow political speeches and to raise slogans? He adds: In my opinion, the matter is tantamount to nothing more than being a grudge harbored in the hearts of those who have been blinded by leaders who live as millionaires. However, they are not ashamed to lament the sufferings of the poor citizens.

The president says: Also, how could we allow a university instructor to become an advocate of the left or of the Muslim Brotherhood? How could we permit the presence of communist journalists on the staff of newspapers, and how could we let religious fanatics write things with which they poison the minds of young people in the newspapers and magazines which they publish?

MENA LISTS SUBJECTS OF SEDITION INVESTIGATION

NC202000 Cario MENA in Arabic 1710 GMT 20 Sep 81

[Text] Cario, 20 Sep--The socialist public prosecutor's office today resumed the political investigation which it is holding with the fomentors of sectarian sedition, who are now being held in custody.

This office has begun its investigation with the second group, which includes 15 Muslim and Christian clergymen and someleaders of the Islamic groups, who are being held in custody. The investigation is being carried out under the direction of the socialist public prosecutor, Counselor 'Abd al-Qadir Ahmad 'Ali.

The first to be investigated in today's 5-hour investigation was Salih al-'Ashmawi, licensee for the publishing of the AD-DA'WAH AL-ISLAMIYAH magazine, member of the Muslim Brotherhood constituent assembly and guidance bureau and secretary of the group prior to its dissolution.

The investigator reviewed the history of Salih al-'Ashmawi in the dissolved Muslim Brotherhood group. The investigator asked Al-'Ashmawi about his activities. Al-'Ashmawi explained that he had joined the Muslim Brotherhood group in 1937, adding that he was detained only in the period ranging from 1948 to 1950.

In his statements to the investigator, Salih al-'Ashmawi noted that he contacted 'Umar at-Talmasani, who is also detained, to have the AD-DA'WAH magazine published in a new form. The magazine would be published in accordance with the Islamic law and the Koran. It began publishing in 1976. Al-'Ashmawi added that the magazine was financed via the Islamic printing and publishing company owned by 'Umar at-Talmasani. Since he was the financier, 'Umar at-Talmasani became chairman of the board of directors and chief editor of the magazine.

The investigation with Salih al-'Ashmawi is scheduled for conclusion next Sunday. Furthermore, the investigation with 'Umar at-Talmasani, chief editor of the AD-DA'WAH AL-ISLIAMIYAH magazine, is scheduled for completion tomorrow, Monday. The investigation with At-Talmasani began yesterday, Saturday.

The indictment of At-Talmasani says that he tried to exploit the AD-DA'WAH magazine to arouse mosque imams and to deal with main themes harmful to national unity--themes already condemned by the judiciary through its decision to confiscate the magazine's latest edition.

The socialist public prosecutor's office also today held an investigation with the Coptic orthodox bishop of Port Sa'id. The bishop's indictment says that he tried to foment sectarian sedition and to instigate religious fanaticism. An investigation was also held with Priest Ibrahim 'Abduh, pastor of the Mar Jirjis church in [Al-Jayyushi), Shubra, and secretary of the Al-Ahad church schools. Priest 'Abduh is also a fomentor of sectarian problems. He also exploited places of worship to incite members of the nation by making sermons aimed at instigating fanatics and by failing to heed the spirit of religion.

The investigation also involved a number of Islamic group leaders. Their indictments say that they participated in the kindling of sectarian sedition by means of making sermons in mosques, writing and distributing pamphlets, attending seminars and denouncing the political and religious leaders. These leaders are: Mustafa al-Hamzawi, student at the Alexandria University Trade College and leader of the college's Islamic groups; 'Amru 'Azzam, student at the Alexandria University Engineering College and secretary of the university's Islamic group; Samih as-Sab', student at the Alexandria college [as received] and leader of the Islamic group; 'Ali Bayyumi, student at the Alexandria University Engineering College and a leader of the Islamic group in Alexandria; Tariq 'Abbas Muhammad, student at the Al-Minya University Engineering College and member of the Islamic group; Ilhamah as-Sayyid al-Mughrabi, student at the Bur Fu'ad University Technology college and leader of the Islamic group in Sawhaj; Mahmud 'Abd ar-Rahim, a student at the Sawhaj University College of Science and a leader of the Sawhaj Islamic group 'Abd an-Nasir Fawzi 'Ali, a student at the 'Ayn Shams University Education College and a member of the college's Islamic group; Safwat Hafiz, a student at the Sawhaj University Education College and a leader of the Sawhaj Islamic group Akmal Amin, a student at the 'Ayn Shams University Engineering College and a member of the college's Islamic group and 'Izzat 'Afifi, a student at the Cairo University College of Medicine and a member of the college's Islamic group.

The lawyers who have attended the investigations held with their detained clients have affirmed that their clients are being treated well and that the authorities expeditiously meet their clients' requests in their places of detention.

The investigation will begin tomorrow, Monday, with the third group of those held in custody. These are: Muhammad 'Abdallah al-Khatib, an employee of the Religious Trusts Ministry who also writes and publishes religious books; Mahmud Ibrahim 'Abd al-Fattah al-Mudarris, a mosque preacher; Ahmad Mahmud Hanafi, a student at the Alexandria University and a leader of the Islamic group; Ahmad Yahya Muhammad, a student at the Alexandria University medical college; Hasan al-Brins, of the Alexandria University medical faculty; Muhammad as-Sayfi, a driver of the Ismailia aluminum company; and Tahir Tawifq, secretary of the Az-Zahra' elementary school in Al-Minya.

This group also includes: Ibrahim 'Umar, student at the Trade and Science College of the Canal University and leader of its Islamic group; Ahmad Salim Fu'ad, a student at the Cairo University Medical School; Hajjaj Muhammad 'Abd al-Ghani, a student at the Asyut University Trade college; 'Abd ar-Rahman al-Banna Mahmud 'Ata, leader of the group in the Cairo University College of Dentistry; and Priest al-Masih, pastor of the Archangel Michael Church in a village of the Tahta District; 'Asim Hasan 'Ali, a student at the Sawhaj University Arts College; in addition to Sacristans 'Abd al-Masih Rufa'il Ni'Matallah, of the church of Akfr Ayyub 'Awad; Mustafa 'Abd al-Hamid, student at the Cairo University Medical College; Hamdin 'Abd al-'Ati as-Sabahi; Muhammad Khalil, secretary of the National Progressive Unionist Grouping Party; and Jamal As'ad 'Abd al-Malak.

LIBYAN 'AGGRESSION' AGAINST SUDAN CONDEMNED

NC191632 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1425 GMT 19 Sep 81

[Text] Cairo, 19 Sep (MENA)--Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali has expressed Egypt's condemnation of the aggression which the Libyan occupation forces in Chad carried out against Sudan on 10 and 15 September and the Libyan aircraft violation of Sudanese airspace and attack on some Sudanese villages.

During his meeting with Sudanese ambassador in Cairo 'Abd ar-Rahman Sulayman, Dr Ghali said that Libyan's actions are considered a new indication of Al-Qadhdhafi's hostile intentions and his efforts to undermine security and stability in the area.

Dr Ghali also affirmed Egypt's firm support for fraternal Sudan in repulsing any aggression from any direction.

During the meeting they also discussed the coordination between the Egyptian and Sudanese efforts during the new UN General Assembly session.

MORE SOVIET PERSONNEL LEAVE CAIRO 19 SEP

NC191106 Cairo MENA Arabic 1030 GMT 19 Sep 81

[Text] Cairo, 19 Sep (MENA)--Another group of Soviet experts, whose contracts to work in Egypt had been terminated by President Anwar as-Sadat's decision proclaiming them persona non grata, left Cairo this morning aboard a special Soviet plane. The group comprised 145 experts who had been working in the aluminum complex and the iron and steel factories.

It is worth noting that Soviet Ambassador Vladimir Polyakov and six members of the embassy left Cairo the day before yesterday on the basis of the aforementioned decision. Leaving with them on the same plane were two Soviet journalists, namely TASS correspondent (Misir Bushif Shamil), and a correspondent of the newspaper TRUD (Makmunstanit Kabninun). Some 299 Soviet experts and their families were deported the day before yesterday and 107 others yesterday.

NEWSPAPER SAYS COTTON WILL NOT BE EXPORTED TO USSR

NC182250 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2230 GMT 18 Sep 81

[Text] Cairo, 18 Sep (MENA)--In its Saturday edition the newspaper AKHBAR AL-YAWM says that this year Egypt will not export cotton to the Soviet Union, which so far has been the major importer of Egyptian cotton. This has been creating a burden for our national economy.

The newspaper says that Minister of State for Economy Dr Sulayman Nur ad-Din will adopt a new cotton export policy. Its main features will be that the cotton will be sold on the free market, directly to the purchaser and without discrimination. Moreover, barter transactions will be prohobited and the central bank will define the currencies in which the sale will be conducted.

AUTONOMY TALKS TO BE HELD IN CAIRO 23, 24 SEP

NC181636 Cairo Domesti Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 18 Sep 81

[Text] The Egyptian, U.S. and Israeli delegations will meet on Sunday in Tel Aviv to discuss preparations for the Palestinian autonomy talks that will be held in Cairo among the three sides next Wednesday and Thursday. The Egyptian side will be led by Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali, the U.S. side by Secretary of State Alexander Haig and the Israeli side by Interior Minister Yosef Burg.

The resumption of the autonomy talks was decided upon at the recent meeting between President as-Sadat and Israeli Prime Minister Menahem Begin in Alexandria.

The four committees for the normalization of relations between Egypt and Israel today concluded their meetings and agreed on questions related to communications and transport for promoting tourism between the two countries.

Ambassador Tahir Shash, Foreign Ministry under secretary and head of the Egyptian side to the meetings, has said that no agreement has yet been reached on questions related to civil aviation. He said that this question will be discussed at the next meetings in Egypt.

The normalization of relations committees started their 5 days of meetings in Tel Aviv last Sunday.

PRESIDENT ADDRESSES CABINET SESSION 20 SEP

JN201647 Baghdad INA in English 1530 GMT 20 Sep 81

[Text] Baghdad, 20 Sep (INA)--President Saddam Husayn described Iraq's election to the 36th UN General Assembly chairmanship as an "indication of Iraq's high repute in the world."

Speaking at a regular Cabinet session here Sunday morning, President Husayn said Iraq has become a free-will country that has acquired its historical responsibilities with the ability to continue its progress that cannot be obstructed.

He added, "All challenges and wars confronted by Iraq since its triumphant revolution, including the wicked war declared by the racist Persian regime, were designed to prevent Iraq from reaching its existing new phase."

He stressed that all Iraq's political, military and economic programmes have been prepared "to enable us [to] continue the war efforts and to achieve victory."

MILITARY SOURCE ON AIR FORCE VICTORIES

JN191214 Bahdad INA in Arabic 1130 GMT 19 Sep 81

[Text] Baghdad, 19 Sep (INA)--An Iraqi military source has described the sorties carried out by Iraqi fighter planes in the southern sector of the battlefield yesterday as unprecedened and unique in the history of contemporary air battles.

In a statement published in the newspaper AL-QADISIYAH, which is issued by the Iraqi Defense Ministry's Political Guidance Department, he said that large air formations gained control of the battlefield using developed scientific methods in attacking enemy targets from very high and low altitudes.

He added that in this decisive battle, Iraqi pilots secured absolute superiority and prevented the Iranian Air Force from interferring. They also succeeded in carrying out their missions, which went beyond striking and destroying enemy targets to backing our valiant ground forces and carrying out large-scale operations against the enemy's supply lines, concentration points and lines of retreat through intensive, concentrated and heavy air strikes.

He added that yesterday's air epic was a decisive victory to be added to our air force victories in all the battles waged since the beginning of the war. He said that the total number of yesterday's sorties and air raids amounted to 85, during which Iraqi pilots managed, due to their great effectiveness, bravery, superior morale and sound and accurate planning, to achieve great military accomplishments.

He further added that the Iraqi Air Force was able to inflict heavy losses on the enemy's forces, vehicles and armor by means of precise coordination with the ground forces. This, he said, made the enemy flee from the battlefield, leaving behind its equipment after receiving very heavy blows on the ground and in the air.

NEW OPPOSITION MOVEMENT RECEIVES SUPPORT

JN201745 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1748 GMT 20 Sep 81

[Text] Beirut, 20 Sep (SANA)--Lebanese press sources said here today that the Iraqi Vanguard Movement-14 July Forces [Harakat at-Tali'ah al-'Iraqiyah-Quwwat 14 Tammuz] yesterday sent a support cable to Maj Gen Hasan an-Naqib, leader of the Islamic National Liberation Front in Iraq [Jabhat at-Taharrur al-Watani al-Islami fi al-'Iraq]. The cable says that the Iraqi Vanguard Movement places its forces under the command of Major General an-Naqib and decares its support for the steps taken by the Islamic National Liberation Front to unify all groups of the Iraqi national movement.

The cable says: We support your steps to unify all groups of the Iraqi national movement for the sake of establishing a democratic regime and guaranteeing democratic liberties for our Iraqi people.

Kurdish Radio on Movement

JN191825 (Clandestine) Voice of Iraqi Kurdistan in Surani Kurdish 1615 GMT 18 Sep 81

[Text] New Delhi--The Indian news agency [as heard] has reported that a new armed movement has emerged in northern Iraq. The movement recently carried out a number of military operations to topple the fascist regime of Saddam Husayn. The agency added that a mobile clandestine radio station was monitored in New Delhi in the past 2 weeks broadcasting that Gen Hasan Mustafa an-Naqib is leading this movement against the policy of persecution, arrests and executions practiced by the Baghdad regime. This movement is struggling against the policy of the declared war against the Iranian peoples.

The agency said this radio station also broadcasts statements by the Iraqi Islamic and nationalist forces.

KURDISH RADIO CARRIES DISPATCH ON FIGHTING

JN191920 (Clandestine) Voice of Iraqi Kurdistan in Surani Kurdish 1600 GMT 18 Sep 81

[Text] We have received the following dispatch: The third and fourth branches of the Democratic Party of Kurdistan have reported that our fighters have fought a fierce 2-day battle in the Barzinjah area against a combined formation of mercenaries belonging to Jalal Talabani, Qassemlu and (Razgari) as well as to special forces supported by artillery, MIGs and helicopters. Our information indicates that the enemy has suffered grave losses amounting to 70 dead and many wounded. The fighting was still raging when the dispatch was prepared.

Following are the names of our Peshmerga martyrs: 'Umar Rida, 'Abd ar-Rahman Muhammad, Fawwaz 'Ali, Bakr 'Abdallah, 'Umar Sabir, Salar Jaf, Khubat 'Abdallah, Jabbar Sabir, Mahud 'Ali, Muhammad Ahmad, Shawan Ahmad, Shrizad, 'Ata Haji Fariq, Jalal Surah and Sabir Ahmad. Seventeen other Peshmerga were wounded.

KURDISH OFFICIAL SURVEYS ANTIREGIME OPERATIONS

JN201606 (Clandestine) Voice of Iraqi Kurdistan in Surani Kurdish 1610 GMT 19 Sep 81

[Text] According to a responsible source in the Statistics Section of the Military Department of the Democratic Party of Kurdistan Politburo, during the past 6 months from 1 March to 1 September 1981, our Kurdistan Revolutionary Army has carried out 238 successful operations against the fascist enemy, of which 18 were joint operations carried out with Iraqi Democratic National Front factions. In these operations 1251 enemy personnel were killed, many were wounded and many kinds of weapons and large quantities of equipment and supplies were captured. The source also said the Iraqi Kurdistan revolutionaries have brought under control several areas of Iraqi Kurdistan and have driven fear and terror into the hearts of the fascist enemy and its clique inside Iraqi cities and in the towns and villages of Kurdistan, which have become battlefields in the struggle against the regime's officials, establishments and armed forces. The source said this information does not include the prolonged battles of many days and nights between our forces and the gangs of Jalal Talabani, Qassemlu and Najih Naqashabandi and which have resulted in clearing many areas of their hirelings who have connived with the Tikriti Ba'thist regime to strike at the Kurdish liberation movement.

U.S.-ISRAELI RELATIONSHIP EVOKES VIETNAM SPECTER

JN200955 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 20 Sep 81 p 4

[Editorial: "Remember Vietnam?"]

[Text] The Arab world has wasted no time in reacting in kind to the "strategic" relationship that was agreed upon in Washington last week between Israel and the United States. A meeting of the Steadfastness and Confrontation Front (grouping Libya, Syria, South Yemen, Algeria and the Palestine Liberation Organisation) has just decided to seek closer ties with the Soviet Union to counter the American-Israeli alliance. Of course, this will now be used by Washington as a pretext to work even harder to counter the "Soviet threat" to the Arab world and the region's oil resources. We have here not only the sickening spectacle of a self-fulfilling prophecy, in which the people of the Arab world are turned into disposal conveniences for the great powers. We also have a grotesque re-run of the Nixon approach of the late 1960's which was then based on the premise that it was necessary to send more American soldiers to South Vietnam to protect the Saigon government from the communist threat from North Vietnam. It was the growing American presence in South Vietnam in the first place that attracted a larger and stronger communist effort from Hanoi, as today it is the growing American interference in the Middle East that is pushing assorted Arab states to seek closer ties with the Soviet Union.

The Middle East is turning into a playpen for the superpowers right before our eyes, and we are all falling into the trap that has been neatly if quickly laid for us and for the Americans by Mr Begin. This polarisation of the area into pro-American and pro-Soviet camps is simply another consequence of the unresolved Palestinian-Israeli dispute. If the Americans cannot get their priorities in order, they should not cover up their weaknesses by going down the same road they navigated so badly in Vietnam.

BRITISH DEFENSE SECRETARY WELCOMED TO AMMAN

JN201830 Amman Domestic Television Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 20 Sep 81

[Text] British Secretary of State for Defense John Nott and his wife arrived in Amman this evening on an official visit to Jordan that will last several days, during which he will meet with a number of senior officials. He was received at the airport by Staff Lt Gen ash-Sharif Zayd ibn Shakir, commander in chief of the armed forces; Minister of Transport 'Ali as-Suhaymat; Staff Maj Gen Fathi Abu Talib, chief of the army staff; the British ambassador in Amman and embassy staff; and a number of army and government officials. The British defense secretary was accorded an official welcome. He and the commander in chief reviewed the guard of honor. Mr Nott is accompanied by an official delegation that includes a number of senior British officials.

FOREIGN MINISTER LEAVES FOR 36TH UN SESSION

JN201307 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 20 Sep 81

[Text] Amman--Foreign Minister Marwan al-Qasim left Amman for New York this morning at the head of Jordan's delegation to the 36th UN General Assembly session.

The Jordanian delegation comprises Dr Hazim Nusaybah, Jordan's permanent UN representative; Jordan's ambassador in Washington His Excellency ash-Sharif Fawwaz Sharaf; Foreign Ministry Ambassadors Walid Tash and Salih al-Kabariti; Minister Plenipotentiary Zuhayr Sakkijha; Counselor Qasim Ghazzawi; Foreign Ministry officials and members of Jordan's permanent delegation in New York.

DOZENS OF CASUALTIES IN BEIRUT THEATER EXPLOSION

NC201509 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 20 Sep 81

[Text] Dozens of people were killed or wounded when an explosion occurred in Salwa movie theater in Corniche al-Mazra'ah [in western Beirut] at about 1600 [1400 GMT] today. Ambulances rushed to the scene of the explosion to rescue the wounded, and fire engines rushed to extinguish the fire. The casualty final toll from the criminal incident is not known yet. The Arab deterrent forces have cordoned off the area.

Responsibility Claimed

NC201435 Paris AFP in English 1431 GMT 20 Sep 81

[Text] Beirut, 20 Sep (AFP)--Dozens of people were killed or wounded today when a bomb blast ripped through a cinema in the western sector of Beirut, Lebanese television reported here. The bomb exploded at about 1600 (1400 GMT) when the cinema was crowded.

Responsibility for the blast was claimed almost immediately by the Front for the Liberation of Lebanon From Foreigners, the same group which claimed to have set off two explosions on Thursday and another on Friday that killed several dozen people and injured scores of others.

In one of the blasts, a booby-trapped car exploded on Thursday in a crowded market outside the headquarters of the combined Palestinian-progressive forces at Sidon, south of Beirut.

The second took place the same day at Shikka, between Beirut and Tripoli, and the third on Friday in west Beirut.

Al-Wazzan Comments

NC210728 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0530 GMT 21 Sep 81

[Excerpts] Four people were killed and 27 others were injured in yesterday's explosion in Salwa theater. Some of the injured are in serious condition resulting from burns.

Commenting on the bombings, Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan has said: The sinister hands that have recently struck are proving to be ones that want to hurt, damage, destroy and kill. Otherwise, what is the meaning of planting a bomb in a crowded place on a holiday such as yesterday? It is painful that the first victim was a 12-year-old child.

He added: This kind of people who play havoc with people's lives and with the country's security cannot be met with silence. They must be pursued, not only by the authorities but also by every citizen who is able to help. This is a matter of concern to the public, and it is a matter of life and of stability. If all efforts are not joined, then these hands will continue to harm and destroy. There is now the need for extraordinary action by all, the authorities and the public. The homeland is ours, and if we do not check them an ill fate will befall all of us.

AL-ASAD RETURNS FROM BENGHAZI FRONT MEETING

JN190650 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0415 GMT 19 Sep 81

[Text] Damascus--His Excellency President Hafiz al-Asad returned early this morning after attending the fifth conference of the pan-Arab Steadfastness and Confrontation Front which convened in Benghazi, Libya.

Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi and the front's leaders bade farewell to President al-Asad in the conference hall. President al-Asad left Benghazi Airport at 0115 today and was seen off by ranking Libyan officials, Munir Barikhan, head of the Syrian Arab relations office in Tripoli and the Syrian consul in Benghazi.

The Syrian Arab delegation to the conference returned with His Excellency President Hafiz al-Asad.

PRESIDENT RECEIVES NEW IRANIAN AMBASSADOR

JN201353 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 20 Sep 81

[Text] President Hafiz al-Asad received at 1215 today Mr 'Ali Akbar Mohtashemi, who presented his credentials as ambassador of the Islamic Republic of Iran in Damascus.

The president and the ambassador exchanged speeches on this occasion. After the presentation of credentials the president and Mr 'Ali Akbar Mohtashemi proceeded to the reception hall where they held cordial talks on the friendly relations linking Syria and Iran.

Mr 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and minister of foreign affairs, and Mr 'Abd al-Karim 'Adi, minister of state for presidential affairs attended the presentation of credentials ceremony.

The ambassador was received and seen off at the presidential palace with the customary protocol.

BA'TH GROUP ISSUES STATEMENT ON IRAQI REGIME

JN201822 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1758 GMT 20 Sep 81

[Text] Damascus, 20 Sep (SANA)--The anti-Iraqi regime leadership of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party has condemned the liquidation campaign waged by the Saddam Husayn regime against strugglers and progressive elements in Iraq. This came in a statement issued by the leadership today and in which it mourned the comrade struggler, Shawkat Adham al-Hadithi, who was assassinated by the Iraqi authorities recently for opposing the current regime and its treasons against the Iraqi people and the Arab nation.

The statement asserts that the assassination of Comrade al-Hadithi is the latest in a series of crimes committed by the Saddam Husayn regime to liquidate nationalist and progressive elements in Iraq.

The statement adds: The campaigns of terrorism and persecution waged by the Saddam Husayn regime against the nationalist and progressive forces will only make Iraqi strugglers more determined to restore freedom to the Iraqi people so they can devote all their resources to the Arab nation's battles and crucial issues.

BRIEFS

AMBASSADORS CREDENTIALS--His Excellency President Hafiz al-Asad this morning received David George Wilson who presented to his excellency his credentials as Australia's ambassador to Syria. 'Abdallah Husayn Barakat also presented his credentials as YAR ambassador to Syria. [Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1115 GMT 20 Sep 81 JN]

'ARAFAT WILLINGNESS TO MEET WITH BEGIN REPORTED

TA210821 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 16 Sep 81 pp 7, 8, 9 and 40 of WEEKLY MAGAZINE

["Words as Ammunition"--A Profile of the East Jerusalem Paper AL-FAJR by Tom Segev]

[Excerpt] According to Hanna Seniora, AL-FAJR editor in chief, "There is no doubt" that the PLO is today ready to reconcile itself to the setting up of an independent state at the side of Israel, and no longer insists on establishing a "secular democratic state" in Israel's stead, as is still postulated in the PLO charter. This charter, says Abu Ziyyad [the chief news editor], is no longer acceptable to the PLO leadership, just as expansion of the state of Israel's territory to the east bank of the River Jordan is not acceptable to the government of Israel, even though the ruling Herut movement has not, to this day, forfeited both river banks as they are still featured on the emblem of the movement, and even though the Zionist movement has not given up on the Biltmore Plan of 1942.

Abu Ziyyad: "The Palestinians have gone a long way since they formulated the PLO charter. We learned to reckon with reality. We know today that the only solution of the conflict that is between us and you can be in a division of the land and the establishment of a Palestinian state at the side of Israel." According to Abu Ziyyad--this, in fact, is today the accepted position of a large majority in the PLO Council.

Both Seniora and Abu Ziyyad say that should Begin stand up and declare suddenly his readiness to meet with Yasir 'Arafat, just as As-Sadat suddenly proclaimed his readiness to meet with Begin--'Arafat would respond immediately, just as he himself had responded to As-Sadat. Why shouldn't the opposite happen? This is impossible, they say: The PLO's refusal to conduct a dialogue with Israel is that organization's only bargaining chip, and it cannot be given up without a reward.

BEGIN REJECTS U.S. ALLEGATIONS OF INTERFERENCE

TA201224 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1200 GMT 20 Sep 81

[Text] Prime Minister Begin has rejected American charges that Israel is interfering in the congressional hearings on the AWACS proposal for Saudi Arabia. Begin was speaking to reporters in Jerusalem after briefing the cabinet on his talks in Washington with President Reagan and other administration officials. The prime minister said the charges by U.S. Senator Tower that Congress was being asked to choose between Reagan and Begin were without foundation. As for Israel's stand on the AWACS, the prime minister had this to say:

[Begin recording] I don't know what is a high profile, what is a low profile. We did our duty to spearhead our attitude, repeated this attitude in the communique of the government. This is the situation. On the 20th of October there will be the vote taken on this issue in both houses of Congress and we shall see the results. [end recording]

DISPUTE ARISES OVER U.S. STRATEGIC COOPERATION

TA201522 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1500 GMT 20 Sep 81

[Text] A dispute occured today at the Cabinet session between Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon and Communications Minister Mordekhay Tzipori over interpreting the significance of the strategic cooperation with the United States. Minister Tzipori claimed that both countries' defense establishments have held strategic ties even before the latest round of talks in Washington. Minister Sharon said that the agreement reached in Washington puts the relations between the two countries on a new plane, which says that Israel is important to the United States not only morally, but also for its capability to contribute toward curbing Soviet expansionism.

Our political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer, has learned that it transpired at the session that Israel and the United States differ over the political solution in Lebanon. The United States differ over the political solution in Labanon. The United States demands that Israel quickly limit its presence and involvement in Lebanon; whereas Israel suggested another plan, which will be the subject for discussion between Defense Minister Sharon and Secretary of State Haig.

DAYAN ON STRATEGIC COOPERATION WITH U.S.

TA181210 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 18 Sep 81 P 5 WEEKEND SUPPLEMENT

[Moshe Dayan's Commentary: "Strategic Cooperation and the Essence of Israel"]

[Text] Even before the prime minister's delegation left for its meeting with President Reagan and his aides information was leaked--as is our deplorable custom--about what Israel intended to propose in Washington.

Quoting "official circles" and "associates", the television, radio and press announced more and more details about what Israel intended to put at the disposal of the U.S. armed forces: Joint air maneuvers, the supply of agricultural produce to the 6th Fleet, maintenance and storage of arms and equipment arsenals and anything the Americans would want us to do for them. On the eve of the trip, the government announced that the main issue to be discussed would be strategic cooperation.

Certainly the issue of the sale of AWACS and other accessories to Saudi Arabia came up in the talks in Washington. The Americans emphasized their interest in this sale and Israel explained the great security hazard posed to it as a result.

At the end of the talks, an official announcement was published in the New York TIMES on 12 September on behalf of the U.S. Defense Department's spokesman. The announcement included several sentences about this issue. It has been a long time since I have read such a brutal and cynical U.S. announcement. It stated that if the AWACS sale is delayed (by either Congress or the Senate), the United States would reconsider cooperation with Israel. Apparently, this policy is also called strategic "cooperation."

I do not know what the position of our government regarding this U.S. announcement is. As an Israeli citizen, it is my opinion that if it were to emerge one day that the Saudi AWACS are gathering secret military information about Israel and transferring it to other Arab countries that are in a state of war with us, we would be obligated--if we are capable of doing so--of shooting these aircraft down.

I wonder about the overall issue of the negotiations on strategic cooperation, mainly because they came at our initiative. The avowed goal of this strategy is to curb Soviet expansionism in the Middle East. Both the Israeli goverment and the opposition have used every possible occasion to declare that it regards the United States as a loyal ally and that Israel would be ready to put its installations at its disposal any time, if and when the United States asks for it.

Neither are there differences of opinion on another part of the agreement: Israel very much wants a share of U.S. military production as well as to maintain, store and repair U.S. equipment. This is basically more an economic than a political issue. Blessed be he that gets the United States to agree to it.

However, the emphasis, the headlines and even part of the plans for strategic cooperation extend far beyond these. Joint land, air and sea maneuvers are probably designed to ensure a joint military action. Where will these military operations take place? Will they occur to defend Israel or Saudi Arabia? Are we partners of the Americans in any alliance to defend the Persian Gulf? Indeed, Mr Begin has declared that Israel and the United States are allies. However, where is that alliance? Is it the alliance within which the Americans are selling AWACS to the Saudis and planning expanded military cooperation with them?

There is no need to enter into speculations, however, it is clear to all of us that if Israel undertakes to share the responsibility for the defense of Saudi Arabia the first thing we will be asked to do is to make concessions to the Palestinians.

Those who read about the Washington talks in the U.S. press received the impression that Israel is a miserable country making strained efforts to get into the lap of the United States and show it the blessings it would stand to gain. What do we need this for? Whenever the Americans want anything from us, they will ask us and we will do our best to meet them halfway.

I know a partial answer to the question of why do we have to push our way through. First of all, a considerable sector of the U.S. public believe that Israel is a burden on the United States (see article in TIME magazine). The Israeli Government apparently wants to prove otherwise and show that we are an asset and a blessing to the United States.

Secondly, Begin's personal style plays not a small role in this issue. He is in love with bombastic declarations: Strategic Cooperation," "A New Era" and "Alliance." What could be larger than the fact that the Israeli prime minister "Decided" on strategic cooperation with the U.S. President? Indeed, Israel today is troubled with various other questions such as major inflation, emigration, the crisis in exports, the collapse of a large number of agricultural farms and, above all, the question of our relations with the Palestinian Arabs (the autonomy). However, all these issues will not register in the annals of history. How can the problems of the town of Shlomi compare to "strategic cooperation with the United States"!

The key and most serious question that arises from all these facts is: What is Israel all about? When the meeting in Washington and the celebrations are over, the representatives of the state of Israel will have to face the Jewish communities in the Diaspora and the Israeli public and explain what Begin and his ministers had discussed in their meeting with the Washington administration.

Moreover, the Jews in the Diaspora who visit in Israel and the Israelis who meet their brethren overseas must time and again describe the essence of Israel. At one time the emphasis was on settlement; now it is on industry and science, our economy, education, the rehabilitation of the slums and merging the various sects and mainly now do we envision coexistence with the Arabs.

These are not merely our problems, but the very essence and nature of Israel. This is the gist of a country that welcomed displaced persons from all ends of the world and now--and for many years afterwards--it has to toil and struggle to turn them into a united nation.

The hateful article in TIME magazine must be rebuked with the truth on our life. If the U.S. citizens do not want to help us build our nation we will not be able to force them. However, ignoring our true essence and instead emphasizing the qualities of our army and presenting it as the key to friendly relations with the United States represents a distorted picture which will ultimately do more harm than good.

U.S. Presidents Truman, Eisenhower, Kennedy, Johnson and Nixon declared that the United States is committed to Israel's existence and well-being. However, they did not make this statement because they thought that aid to Israel is a burden. They saw it as their moral obligation to help a people who were crushed and who had lost its communal life through thousands of years of degenerating exile. They wanted to help us return to our country, build it, and, above all, rehabilitate ourselves as a nation. This is a hard and long mission and it is frequently accompanied by negative phenomena.

Television in the United States is now showing a movie about the Israeli Mafia. In Israel, we see them everyday in the streets. In Toronto, Canada, where I visited this week there are some 20,000 emigrants. They are detached from Israel and from Jewish life and there is a large incidence of mixed marriages among them. This is part of the difficulties our people face in its efforts to try and become a normal nation.

The Jews in the Diaspora and enlightened nations of America and Europe who believe that the Jewish people deserve a motherland as well as political and cultural independence like all other nations, will display generosity and an historical sense and will help us. They will do so to help us overcome the difficulties on our way and not in exchange for the military benefit they can get from us.

CABINET SESSION TOPIC: STRATEGIC COOPERATION

TA201555 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1510 GMT 20 Sep 81

[Report by political correspondent Gad Becker--live]

[Text] The Cabinet session today was devoted to reports by the prime minister and Ministers Sharon and Burg on the talks in Washington. As Mr Begin summed them up, the issues were: the agreement in principle to establish a defense-strategic partnership between the United States and Israel; expressing unqualified objection to the sale of sophisticated arms to Saudi Arabia, including offensive equipment for the F-15 and AWACS intelligence aircraft, the most sophisticated aircraft of this sort in the world, as the prime minister called them; the autonomy issue; Lebanon and other issues.

The prime minister approached the press at the end of the meeting, and answered questions which, by and large, centered on the AWACS. At first he was asked to comment on the remarks made by the assistant U.S. secretary of defense on the fact that the strategic cooperation with Israel will be harmed if the AWACS deal is foiled:

[Begin Begin recording] During all the deliberations with the president and his advisers I have not heard even one hint--and what I am saying applies to my colleagues as well--regarding some sort of link between the two things. I repeat this again, during all the deliberations we have not heard even the slightest hint that the two are linked. [end recording]

The prime minister rejected the attack chairman of the armed services committee, Senator John Tower, voiced about him, but declined to engage in a dispute with him. He similarly rejected charges that he had implicitly let it be understood that he would avoid a full public attack on the AWACS deal. We had made it clear, Mr Begin said, that we would present the same explanations and maps before the congressional committees as well.

[Begin Begin recording] Reports have been coming, and these are headlines. The reports provide headlines. This is absolutely unfounded. What kind of choice between the U.S. president and myself is this? We came, presented our objection and the danger to Israel's security by this double-deal--namely, the supply of offensive equipment for the F-15 and the sale of the AWACS to Saudi Arabia--to the president, to two congressional committees according to their invitation. I think this is only a headline and is absolutely groundless. [end recording]

At today's meeting, the defense minister reviewed in detail the issue of the strategic cooperation; and Dr Burg reviewed the talks preceding the resumption of the autonomy negotiations.

Tripartite, official-level talks in preparation for the ministerial autonomy talks that will begin on Wednesday in Cairo, are taking place. Meanwhile, a timetable for the official-level and higher-level talks is being worked out, setting dates until January.

That is all on the Cabinet session. After the session a ministerial consultation took place at the prime minister's office on the invasion of houses in Moshav Talme Yosef in the Yamit district. Our political correspondent reports that the ministers of defense, justice and the interior, as well as the deputy foreign minister and the directors general of the Agriculture Ministry, participated in the meeting and the prime minister chaired it. So far no details on the content of the meeting or the resolutions it passed have been available, and our correspondent reports that if the problem is not solved in a week, the entire Cabinet will discuss the matter at its next session.

MINISTER BURG INTERVIEWED ON AUTONOMY TALKS

TA190917 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0805 GMT 19 Sep 81

[Israel's chief autonomy negotiator, Interior Minister Dr Yosef Burg, interviewed on the Weekly Newsreel by Razi Barqay--recorded]

[Excerpts] [Question] Dr Burg, the differences of opinion on autonomy are no secret. One of the major ones has to do with the source of authority of the Administrative Council and the powers it will have. Will Israel put forward new proposals on this subject?

[Answer] If our previous proposals were good ones, there is no need to bring new ones. At all events, we have no better proposals.

[Question] That is, our basic positions have not changed since the talks were suspended 1 and 1/2 years ago?

[Answer] I can say that we laid down the principles in Cabinet meetings. There has been no change. We can talk, we can find formulations--and this will no doubt be one of the important tasks.

[Question] There is a feeling--with which you are certainly acquainted--that these talks are dragging on without any progress, and that in fact the differences are so deep that it is difficult to find a solution for them. So how will yet another meeting help?

[Answer] If you don't start building a bridge, you have only an abyss. The task of the negotiations is to find a bridge of understanding on the issues where there are conflicting viewpoints, and there is nothing new in this: If they were not conflicting, there would be no need for negotiations.

[Question] What elements of self-government are you ready to grant the Administrative Council of the Palestinians?

[Answer] We have twice, in two forms, given a reply to this question--but unfortunately, these were not accepted at the time. One form was that we put forward a model showing the roles of the various departments of the Administrative Council: labor, transportation, welfare, health, education, religious affairs, local authorities--and in my view these constitute 80 percent of the activities of a sovereign, and certainly of an administrative authority.

[Question] And the remaining 20 percent--these are security and foreign policy?

[Answer] Yes. On this matter I am ready to quote the late Golda Meir, who said that on money matters you can make compromises, but on security matters you cannot because that is life: Either you live or you do not live. This is how it is. We also put forward another concept. Instead of models, we said it was possible to speak of categories, with forms of cooperation: If you have to work against malaria because of the mosquitoes, you need cooperation; if there are rabid dogs, you need cooperation--and other subjects along the same line, but in principle categories which could be handed over to the Administrative Council without any undue pain. These are matters which should come from dialogue; we drink water which originates in the Samarian Hills, in Gaza they drink water that originates with the national water carrier on the Jordan River--that is, there are issues which we must discuss together, and there are other subjects, particularly those concerning security, which touch on our very life, which form a category that must remain under our control. I shall try to adhere to this.

[Question] Is it possible to reach an agreement on the future of the region without the participation of Palestinian representatives? They were invited to take part in the talks, but every one of them turned down the idea. What is the point of sitting down to talk while they are absent?

[Answer] If we were interested in the talks not taking place at all, we would say: We have an excuse, they are not attending, so there is no need to talk. But if we nonetheless want to make an intellectual, political, public, national and international effort to find the way to an autonomy of self-rule through an Administrative Council, we must talk with those who are ready, and at this moment this is Egypt, with the active participation of the United States.

[Question] Have talks with what you have termed moderate Arabs in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip engendered any hope that these persons will be ready to join talks in the near future?

[Answer] I cannot say that this has engendered hope, but I can say that it has not killed hope.

[Question] Dr Burg, President as-Sadat at one time put forward the idea of Gaza first. Has this notion been completely dropped?

[Answer] We said--I believe that the prime minister personally said so to President as-Sadat--that first we must clarify the issue of the total autonomy, at what pace and in what topography it will begin to be applied, and after this we will talk about the Gaza first idea, but not instead of this.

[Question] To what degree is the April 1982 date casting its shadow over these talks?

[Answer] This is a date which is itself a shadow, without any connection to talks. It is a date of considerable trauma, and we will need a large measure of national unity in order to overcome these matters--but it has no direct connection to the talks. What is termed linkage does not exist between the autonomy talks and the implementation of the peace treaty conditions; from the legal point of view, these are unrelated matters. From the psychological point of view, there may be certain feelings, but this is unrelated.

[Question] That is, Israel does not make completion of the Sinai withdrawal contingent upon progress in the autonomy talks?

[Answer] That is not the question, so I cannot reply to it. A peace treaty is a signed document, and countries honor their signature.

AGREEMENT REACHED ON AUTONOMY TALKS TIMETABLE

TA201933 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 20 Sep 81

[Text] Agreement was reached in Tel Aviv today on the timetable of discussions in the autonomy talks due to be resumed in Egypt this week at a ministerial level. The timetable stipulates meetings and discussions up until the middle of January.

The preparatory teams of Israel, Egypt and the United States had today the first meeting in the framework of the autonomy talks, after a void of 15 months. The teams will continue their discussions tonight in order to prepare also the list of subjects for discussion.

EDITORIAL VIEWS ON AWACS DEAL, AUTONOMY TALKS

TA210746 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0440 GMT 21 Sep 81

[From a review of morning press editorials]

[Excerpts] HATZOFE says there is no justification in linking strategic cooperation to the AWACS deal. Anyone linking the two is eventually harming Israel, which is an ally of the United States. Washington has to keep this in mind. It must know that cooperation is achieved neither by pressure nor by ultimatum.

'AL HAMISHMAR writes that it seems the Americans see the strategic cooperation approximately in the following way: You, the Israelis stop interventing in Lebanon, and shut up if we supply AWACS to the Saudis and we, the Americans, will consent to your fighting the Soviet danger. In any case, Israel hands will as of now be tied due to U.S. pressure regarding any activity in Lebanon. Mr Begin already forgot the Syrian missiles and is no longer threatening Al-Asad or even Habib.

DAVAR maintains it is very possible that from now on the United States, Egypt and Israel will be focusing on the formulation of agreed upon issues, deferring the argument about differences to some future date. It would be an optical error to regard the agreed upon 80 percent as the main road to a solution, because with the missing 20 percent of the head there is no meaning to the 80 percent of the body. However, should President as-Sadat and Mr Begin decide, after active prodding from President Reagan and Mr Haig, to create such a body and leave the head to be dealt with later, this might not exceed their ability.

SHARON: TALKS ON ARMS PROCUREMENT BEGIN

TA201957 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 20 Sep 81

[Text] A U.S. delegation comprising representatives of the Pentagon, the State Department and the White House began talks in Israel today on U.S. purchases from the Israeli military and aircraft industries. As part of the peace treaty between Israel and Egypt, a memorandum of understanding was also signed between Israel and the United States, granting Israeli manufacturers equal rights in competing with U.S. manufacturers for orders made by the U.S. defense establishment. The implementation of the memorandum of understanding was withheld among other things because of the bombing of the Iraqi nuclear reactor and the terrorist headquarters in Beirut. But now, after the prime minister's visit to the United States, the United States decided to resume contacts on this issue.

U.S. diplomatic sources in Israel told our correspondent, Ron Ben-Yishay, today that the volume of U.S. procurement in Israel could have been increased immediately had the Israeli manufacturers understood that they must compete with their U.S. counterparts rather than request preferred status from the Pentagon in advance. At the same time, the United States is prepared to make the process of reviewing the Israeli proposals even easier with the aim of increasing buys in Israel.

LIBYA

JANA COUNTERS REMARKS ON CHAD BY SUDAN'S MUBARAK

LD210916 Tripoli JANA in English 0810 GMT 21 Sep 81

[Text] Tripoli, 21 Sep (JANA)--In an official statement published by the official SUDANESE NEWS AGENCY last Saturday, the Sudanese foreign minister, Muhammad Mirghani, claimed that Sudan is seeking to achieve peace and security in Chad by achieving national unity among what he called the disputing parties. He said Sudan is absolutely committed not to champion one side against the other.

These groundless allegations came in an attempt to reply to statements made in Paris by Goukouni Oueddei, head of the interim national government and president of the state of Chad, in which he accused the Sudanese and Egyptian forces of launching an armed attack on Chad and of disturbing peace and security in his country.

Our correspondent comments on these statements saying: "The Sudanese foreign minister's claims contradict earlier statements made by him and President Numayri himself which in fact threatened to invade Chad and attack the Jamahriyah which had itself made positive moves towards achieving peace and security in Chad and consolidated the freedom of the Chadian people."

The political editor went on to add that this official denial is tantamount to a self-condemnation. "The Sudanese regime has repeatedly and blatantly threatened Chad and disturbed the country's peace and security. Such threats are to be taken in conjunction with military operations against the Chadian forces which have assumed their revolutionary tasks in the protection of the Chadian people's freedom."

One feels impelled to expose the treacherous stands of the Sudanese regime, he said, condemn its armed exploitation in Chad and denounce its continuous conspiratorial activities. Such [words indistinct] the Sudanese regime flagrantly distorts facts of misleads public opinion in an attempt to conceal its military and political conspiracies against the Jamahiriyah. However, he continued, all the signs indicate that Numayri's regime has been contained by an internal popular wrath. "To counteract this Numayri has resorted to criminals, henchmen, saboteurs, criminals and hirelings to safeguard his aggressive policy against the Chadian and Libyan Arab people."

The SUDANESE NEWS AGENCY itself has been giving such evidence: "Three days ago, it confirmed the participation of Sudanese forces in attacks launched from Sudanese territories against the Chadian republic and its people.

Moreover, Foreign Minister Mirghani in a previous statement distributed by the SUDANESE NEWS AGENCY, did not attempt to cover up the implication of the Numyri regime in these attacks. In fact, he directed aggressive and flagrant threats against the Chadian national government and the Jamahiriyah under the pretext that his country is fighting a life and death battle against alleged communist infiltration.

The political editor said: The Sudanese Janeina [words as received] and nearby regions are now springboards for Egyptian-Sudanese aggression supported by the United States and Israel.

The INTERNATIONAL HERALD TRIBUNE newspaper, much trusted by Numayri said in its September 17 issue that the Sudan and Egypt are openly helping defeated and vengeful bands by supplying them with all types of arms to launch raids against Chad.

The papers said the Egyptian regime has dispatched large groups of military experts to the Sudan who are now mostly deployed in the Janeina region on the Chaidan border.

Apart from all this, several senior officials in the Numayri regime have provided (JANA) with precise information on Egyptian-Sudanese military preparations.

Yet what is absolutely clear now is that all excuses and masks used by the Numayri regime have been uncovered. Public opinion has seen its ugly aggressive face and its vile attempt to threaten the freedom, unity, security and territorial integrity.

AL-QADHDHAFI INTERVIEWED ON U.S.-LIBYAN RELATIONS

LD191422 Hamburg DPA in German 1339 GMT 19 Sep 81

[Text] Hamburg, 19 Sep (DPA)--Libyan head of state Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi has warned the Americans not "to play with fire." In an interview with the Hamburg news magazine DER SPIEGEL, Al-Qadhdhafi said in connection with the incident over the Gulf of Sidra where on 19 August two Libyan SU-22 fighter planes were shot down by two U.S. F-14 fighters, that he regards the gulf as an indispensible security zone for his country. Anyone entering the Gulf of Sidra is on Libyan territory without permission and "has declared war on us."

Al-Qadhdhafi emphasized that he is not interested in liv'ng in enmity with the Americans but neither will be grovel before the United States. "Playing with fire, which is what the Americans are doing here, moving fleets to and fro, is no paper exercise. In fact, it is really very dangerous." Al-Qadhdhafi renewed his threat to attack U.S. NATO bases in Greece, Italy or Spain should U.S. aircraft carriers renew naval demonstrations from these bases.

AL-QADHDHAFI SPEECH BACKS IRANIAN REVOLUTION

NC180835 Tripoli Domestic Service in ARabic 0500 GMT 18 Sep 81

[Text] Commenting on the speech by the Iranian foreign minister, Brother Leader [Al-Qadhdhafi] described it as expressing the reality of the Iranian revolution stand toward Arabism, Islam and imperialism as well as the need to confront the enemies. We greet the Islamic revolution in Iran and its absolute backing of the Arab nation, its basic cause, Palestine, and the call to liberate it. This affirms the soundness of our firm and supporting stand to the Islamic revolution in Iran.

We want to express our admiration for the political awareness [words indistinct] of the Islamic revolution which is accused by [words indistinct] and the enemies of lacking understanding of contemporary politics and of fumbling in chaos. The brother leader said this does not seem to be true. The speech by the Iranian foreign minister demonstrates deep political awareness of the Islamic revolution in Iran. I believe that there is no one opposed to the establishment of the united Islamic front if it is progressive and would act to remove all contradications between the Islamic nation and the progressive forces in the world.

[Words indistinct] against imperialism, reactionaries and (?racism). [Passage indistinct] the brother leader said that the term, the Persian Gulf, occurred twice [in the foreign minister's speech]. This only applies to (?him). This issue contradicts the principles of the Islamic revolution in Iran which is not Persian or [word indistinct] but an Islamic revolution raising international Islamic slogans. [Several words indistinct] reiterating this term will prompt us to support the Iraqi logic [words indistinct] the Iraqi actions against Iran. [several words indistinct]

TEHRAN REPORTS ON MUSAVI, AL-QADHDHAFI MEETING

LD160855 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 16 Sep 81

[Text] According to PARS News Agency, Mr Musavi, the minister of foreign affairs, has gone to Benghazi to attend the steadfastness conference. Last night he met Colonel al-Qadhdhafi, the Libyan leader.

During this meeting the minister of foreign affairs, while explaining the Islamic Republic of Iran's stance in connection with the recent plots against our country, said: Today, the situation in Iran totally depends on the people's will; this will is consolidated daily and is more coordinated than ever. Although we have suffered bereavements and have lost dear ones in the confrontation with American mini-groups, the will of the people is stronger and their presence on the scene has increased. Terefore, we are moving toward a purer Islam and a more stable and stronger situation.

He said the dependence on America is being uprooted today. Therefore, we will be able to follow more certain and determined principles in our foreign relations; our revolution will pursue its course.

On Libya, the minister of foreign affairs said: We know that our brothers in Libya were trying to build the foundations of their government on the basis of the people's will. Our mutual stances, especially regarding Israel, Egypt, and the reactionary countries, could be the main axis of our discussions.

Colonel al-Qadhdhafi, the Libyan leader, replied: Our hearts are with you. The Islamic revolution of Iran is an advanced popular revolution in the modern world. Therefore, all the world Muslims have set many hopes on it.

In another part of his speech, the Libyan leader said: The Islamic Revolution of Iran presented the true nature of Islam to all the people of the world. This revolution promises to make today the age of the rule of the masses. He added: You have taken great steps and have brought a genuine revolutionary movement to fruition.

Colonel al-Qadhdhafi added: May God give Imam Khomeyni longer life so that the Muslims, not only in Iran but all over the world, can attain their goals thanks to him.

Condemning imperialist plots, the Libyan leader strongly criticized the stances of the reactionary countries such as Egypt and Sudan. He called Saudi Arabia the agent contributing to Iraq's aggression against Iran. On the Iraqi regime's aggression against Iran, Colonel al-Qadhdhafi said: It was with great regret that I saw a Muslim Arab country's aggression against an Islamic and revolutionary country. Iraq's aggression against Iran only served the purposes the mutual enemy of the Muslims and the pruposes of Israel and America. He then stressed: We are with you and will support you morally and financially.

According to this same report, our minister of foreign affairs had previously met with 'Abd as-Salam Jallud, the Libyan prime minister [title as heard] and explained the Islamic Republic of Iran's stands to him. While wishing success for the Islamic revolution of Iran, Major Jallud declared his country's readiness for any form of cooperation with the Islamic revolution of Iran.

The meeting between our minister of foreign affairs and Colonel al-Qadhdhafi was attended by 'Abd as-Salam Jallud and the charge d'affaires of the Islamic Republic of Iran in Libya.

SUDAN

FOREIGN MINISTER SPEAKS ON LIBYAN AGGRESSION

JN181456 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1420 GMT 18 Sep 81

[Text] Khartoum, 18 Sep (SUNA)--Foreign Minister Muhammad Mirghani Mubarak has asserted in a statement to SUNA that the whole world knows what Libya is doing to Sudan many countries in Africa and the Arab world. Sudan, he said, is facing all this with the bare facts and branding evidences. So far, he added, Sudan has not found it difficult to convince others about Libya's lies.

Mubarak asserted that Sudan will continue to acquaint the international community with the facts so as to expose the Libyan regime and its hostile practices. Regarding Libyan attacks on our Western border, Mubarak explained that following its improper campaigns and many conspiracies against Sudan as well as its attempts to set up desert military camps and force Sudanese to take up arms to implement its conspiracies, Libya has taken a more audacious step by encroaching on Sudanese sovereignty over Sudanese territory.

Concluding this statement to SUNA, Mubarak said that when Libya invaded Chad, it set up airfields a few kilometers from our western border and stationed military forces and modern aircraft in these bases in preparation for its acts of aggression.

Further on Statement

JN181751 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1715 GMT 18 Sep 81

[Text] Khartoum, 18 Sep (SUNA)--In a statement to SUNA, Foreign Minister Muhammad Mirghani Mubarak said: The whole international community knows that real suppression exists in Libya. Al-Qadhdhafi himself has admitted that he sends his men to liquidate his opponents in Europe. All the European states have complained about Libya's illegal activities on their territories. Mubarak added: Libya has become known internationally as a terrorist state which interferes in other peoples' affairs. Libya holds the record as the country boycotted by the most countries worldwide.

Mubarak refuted Libya's lies in the rabid campaigns against Sudan, particularly the allegations that Sudan is suppressing liberties and workers strikes. To the contrary, Mubarak said, we have democracy in Sudan which recognizes these liberties. The real suppression is in Libya as is known to the whole international community, he added. [sentence indistinct]

MUBARAK DENIES CHAD LEADER'S CLAIMS

JN191816 Khartoum SUNA in English 1750 GMT 19 Sep 81

[Text] Khartoum, 19 Sep (SUNA)--In a statement to SUDAN NEWS AGENCY (SUNA), Minister of Foreign Affairs Muhammad Mirghani Mubarak denied the allegations raised by Chadi President Goukouni Oueddei in which he accused Sudan of taking part in the last attacks carried of [as received] former Minister of Defense Hissein Habre against the government Libyan-backed armed forces, and in which captured [as received] some towns in east Chad.

Mirghani explained that Sudan denies categorically these allegations and regards them as groundless. He declared that Sudan, who was the first to stand against the done this action according to the basic principles of his policy which denounces any foreign intervention in the internal affairs of another country, and with the same degree refuses any intervention in his internal affairs. [sentence as received]

In this issue, the minister recalled Sudan's stand towards the Chadli problem in which he calls for the realization of security and stability in Chad by bringing the disputing parties into national reconciliation, away from external intervention. In this respect, Sudan will be committed not to support any one of those parties. In his statement, the Sudanese foreign minister also refuted the allegations reported by Chadian President Goukouni Oueddei that Sudan has supported the forces of Hissein Habre, leader of the FAN, and described that as Libyan claims aiming at vindicating its military occupation to Chad.

The foreign minister further renewed the Sudan readiness to cooperate with any committee formed by the Organization of African Unity (OAU) or by the United Nations for finding facts to testify who is the aggressor and scuttle all chances before Libyan plans. The minister recalled to minds the Sudan claim to the UN on the Libyan aggression raids led by its planes on the Sudanese villages western the country.

CAMEROON

PRESIDENT AHIDJO TALKS WITH MEDIA IN PARIS

AB182051 Yaounde Domestic Service in English 1830 GMT 18 Sep 81

[Text] President Ahidjo conferred with his French counterpart, Francois Mitterrand, in Paris today on the 4th day of his friendly and working visit to France. Luc Ananga has the details in Paris:

The heads of state of Cameroon and France have been discussing issues of mutual benefit to their two countries as well as a broad review of international problems.

After a lunch at the Elysee in Paris this afternoon with French President Francois Miterrand, President Ahidjo told the press that relations between France and Cameroon were on [word indistinct] and grounds. He said his discussions with the French leader revealed a vast area of similarities on almost all major national and international issues. President Ahidjo said he and President Mitterrand discussed at length the problem of Namibia, racist South Africa, Third World issues and the recent move to stabilize the fluctuating price of Third World produce in the international market.

The head of state took the occasion to thank the French Government for its attitude so far with regard to Third World problems, especially in its firmness on the issue of Nambia and the insistence by the French that the UN plan on Namibia must be implemented integrally including its vigorous condemnation of racist South Africa.

President Francois Mitterrand was all smiles as he came out and all he said was to ask us to pass his friendly wishes to the Cameroonian people and added, I hope to come see you soon.

This evening, the president was again speaking to the press. He told a select group of journalists from Radio France International and Radio Europa and us, of course, that he found President Francois Mitterrand very interesting, almost exciting, especially over his involvement in and willingness to fight against underdevelopment in the Third World. President Ahidjo added that he was personally touched by the French president's commitment in this regard.

On our development priorities, the head of state said top priority was being rural development and in this regard, Cameroon's desire is to increase its agricultural production with a view to achieving self-sufficiency in food production. He also talked about problems in the areas of telecommunications, road and rail transport difficulties. But, he said, [words indistinct] were underway to improve the situation.

As expected, there was a question on our petroleum resources to which President Ahidjo responded by reiterating that the quantity remains modest and reaffirmed his repeated call to the fact that agriculture remains the backbone of our economy. He added, as many times before, that agriculture was there before petrol and will still be there after petrol.

On the problem of Chad, once again the president said he thought the UN was the best place at this point in time to help resolve rapidly the situation in Chad. He explained that the UN has more means in terms of money, experts and men to reconstruct and reestablish peace in Chad. Asked whether Cameroon would be prepared to send troops to Chad as a member of a peace-keeping mission to that country, President Ahidjo answered with a firm "no." He said Cameroon will never send troops to Chad in any capacity.

On the Nigeria-Cameroon border situation, the head of state said the problem was now being solved peacefully.

Earlier, the president had received the French minister of cooperation and development, Mr Jean-Pierre Cot, who said afterward that cooperation between the two countries was mutually beneficial, adding that he and the president had discussed improving and increasing this cooperation. More on the interview will be exploited in subsequent dispatches.

The president is about now receiving members of the Cameroonian community here.

CHAD

GOUKOUNI SAYS OAU FORCE SHOULD REPLACE LIBYANS

LD181838 Paris Domestic Service in French 1700 GMT 18 Sep 81

[Text] Violence continues in Chad, where the civil war is flaring up again. The eastern town of Guereda, which had been taken by Hissein Habre's rebels less than 8 days ago, was retaken by government forces this morning. Extremely heavy fighting reportedly resulted in at least 500 dead.

In the meantime, President Goukouni of Chad is in Paris. He was received by Francois Mitterrand yesterday, and he appears very satisfied. Nothing very definite was agreed on, but France has pledged to give logistics support to the African forces of the OAU which are due to play the role of policeman in Chad, provided, of course, that the Libyans--who are strongly established there--will agree to withdraw, which is uncertain.

President Goukouni has spoken to our correspondent Michel Barthelem:

[Begin recording] I am convinced that President Mitterrand--considering his position on the Third World's problems and on the Namibia problem--I am convinced that the socialist government will try to help the OAU send a force to Chad to guarantee the security of the Chadians. As soon as the conditions of security are guaranteed, we shall say thank you very much to Libya, which has helped us. I do not think the Libyans will refuse to leave, but if they do, the OAU is there to help us expel them by force. [end recording]

AFP REPORTS ON GOUKOUNI ACCUSATION AGAINST SUDAN

AB181940 Paris AFP in French 1751 GMT 18 Sep 81

[Text] Paris, 18 Sep (AFP)--For the first time, President Goukouni Queddei on Friday accused Sudan of military intervention inside Chadian territory.

In a press conference in Paris, the Chadian head of state stated that Sudan's regular troops supported by their master, Egypt, have attacked Chadian troops in the east of the country at Adre and Guereda.

President Goukouni added that the fighting these last few weeks in eastern Chad is an unprovoked aggression by Sudan and Egypt aimed at disrupting national unity. According to President Goukouni, the Chadian-Libyan troops, which were at first taken by surprise at Guereda, have regained control over that small town and the region bordering Sudan.

These charges by President Goukouni mark the latest stage in the mounting strain on Chadian-Sudanese relations since President Goukouni's victory last December in Ndjamena and the stationing of a large Libyan military contingent in the north and the east of the country.

In an interview this week with the American weekly NEWSWEEK, the Sudanese president, Ja'afar Numayri, said in substance that Libyan troops will only withdraw from Chad through force. The Sudanese authorities have on several occasions denounced the presence of Libyan troops in Chad as a threat to their security.

The SUDANESE NEWS AGENCY (SUNA) announced Wednesday that the Sudanese anti-aircraft defense system had shot down a Libyan military plane on the Chadian-Sudanese border.

The Chadian Government, for its part, has been accusing Sudan and Egypt for several months of militarily supporting the Hissein Habre rebellion.

As long as our country remains threatened by Sudan and Egypt, as long as the rebellion continues to be maintained, at great costs, to break Chad's unity and as long as our integrated national army is not set up, it would be difficult for us to refuse a friendly hand from a brother and neighboring country (Libya), President Goukouni said, thus justifying the maintenance of Libyan troops in his country.

But, the Chadian head of state added, the principle of Libyan withdrawal has been accepted by both parties, stressing that when his country's security is guaranteed, Chad will not accept any foreign base on its territory or allow itself to be used as a springboard for destabilization against its neighbors.

President Goukouni also reiterated Chad's willingness to welcome, in the shortest possible time, troops of the Pan-African peacekeeping force. He added that the Chadian Government has agreed to the proposal by the OAU chairman, President Arap Moi of Kenya, to set up the neutral African force, composed of Algerian, Malagasy, Senegalese, Nigerian and Cameroonian contingents. We do not think that Cameroon will take part in the formation of this force, he stated.

On his visit to France and on his talks on Thursday with President Mitterrand, President Goukouni expressed happiness about the new understanding of the French authorities on the Chadian issue. He said that the reappointing of a French ambassador to Ndjamena was also discussed.

GOUKOUNI OUEDDEI DEPARTS FRANCE FOR HOME

AB190830 Paris AFP in French 0752 GMT 19 Sep 81

[Text] Paris, 19 Sep (AFP)--Chadian President Goukouni Oueddei left Orly Airport early this morning for Ndjamena. Mr Oueddei has thus ended his 2-day official visit to France, during which he held talks with French President Francois Mitterrand.

EQUATORIAL GUINEA

RUMORS OF SPANISH INTENT TO SEND TROOPS DENIED

LD191900 Madrid in Spanish to Europe 1750 GMT 19 Sep 81

[Excerpts] The head of state of Equatorial Guinea, Teodoro Obiang Nguema, this morning convened a special meeting of the Supreme Military Council. In a 2-hour session, Colonel Obiang informed the high command of the economic and political difficulties the country is going through as a result he said, of corrupt practices, abuses and lack of interest among members of the government in advancing the fatherland. Afterwards, Colonel Obiang announced a government reshuffle in the next few weeks that could possibly affect all departments. This reshuffle will take place in the view of observers, immediatly after the visit by Gen Saenz de Santamaria, the inspector general of the Spanish National Police, who arrives in Malabo on Monday.

Meanwhile, the rumor that Spain will send troops to Equatorial Guinea was denied simultaneously today in Malabo and Madrid. There is so far, no plan to replace the Moroccan company in charge of Colonel Obiang's security, according to Equatorial Guinean sources quoted by the EFE agency.

ANGOLA

FOREIGN MINISTER JORGE ARRIVES IN ROME FOR TALKS

For Rome ANSA reportage on the visit to Rome of the Angolan Minister of Foreign Affairs, Paulo Jorge, including meetings with top officials and a news conference on 18 September, see the Italy & the Vatican section of the 21 September Western Europe DAILY REPORT and subsequent issues.

NAMIBIA

OFFICIAL VOICES DOUBTS ON SETTLEMENT PLAN

LD201138 Johannesburg International Service in English 1100 GMT 20 Sep 81

[Text] A member of the Ministers' Council of South-West Africa/ Namibia, Dr Ben Africa, has reacted to an independence plan for the territory which a South African delegation is to discuss with the American assistant secretary of state for African affairs, Dr Crocker, in Europe this week. It was reported earlier that the talks would probably take place in Zurich at the request of the South African Government.

Dr Africa said he did not have all the details of the plan but it appeared as if several objections of the Ministers' Council would not be eliminated. Among these was the partiality of the United Nations and the procedures to be followed by a constituent assembly after an election. The question had also not yet been answered on who would be responsible for enforcing constitutional guarantees. Dr Africa said that all the parties who would take part in an election should accept the proposals. An agreement on constitutional guarantees between only South Africa and SWAPO was not good enough. He said more details of the independence plan would solve the existing obscurities. The South African delegation to the talks is led by the director general of the Department of Foreign Affairs, Dr Brand Fourie. Earlier reports said an independence date of 1 January 1983 had been worked out in lengthy consultations between South African and American officials.

SOUTH AFRICA

BOTHA REFUSES COMMENT ON RUMORED TALKS IN EUROPE

LD191210 Johannesburg International Service in English 1100 GMT 19 Sep 81

[Text] The South African minister of foreign affairs, Mr Roelof Botha, says it is to be expected that talks between South Africa and representatives of the five Western powers will take place in a complex negotiating process, such as that on South-West Africa/Namibia. Mr Botha was approached in Cape Town by our political correspondent and asked to comment on rumors that talks between a team of American diplomats and a South African delegation were taking place somewhere in Europe. Mr Botha said he could not comment any further at this stage.

Our political correspondent reports further that there are indications that the team of South African diplomats led by the director-general of foreign affairs and information, Dr Brand Fourie, has already left for Europe for the talks with the Americans, led by the assistant secretary of state for African affairs, Dr Chester Crocker. Representatives of the other four Western powers are also expected to attend. The meeting is taking place in anticipation of the meeting of foreign ministers of the five Western powers in New York, on 24th September, to finalize the new American initiative on South-West Africa/Namibia.

Mr Botha said in the House of Assembly on Thursday that although good progress had been made since the Geneva conference and nothing had happened that made a solution to the South-West Africa question impossible, more talks were necessary to clear up certain aspects.

The administrator-general of South-West Africa/Namibia, Dr Danie Hough, the chairman of the Democratic Turnhalle Alliance, Mr Dirk Mudge, and the leader of the National Party in the Territory, Mr Kobie Pretorius, were in Cape Town yesterday for urgent talks with Mr Botha and the prime minister, Mr P.W. Botha.

S. AFRICAN DELEGATION TO MEET WITH CROCKER

AB191304 Paris AFP in English 1217 GMT 19 Sep 81

[Text] Cape Town, 19 Sep (AFP)--A South African delegation has left Johannesburg for a meeting with United States Assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs Chester Crocker to discuss a United States plan to give Namibia independence by January 1, the English-language daily, the ARGUS, reported today.

The plan includes the following proposals, the report said:

--An undertaking to respect human rights in Namibia, signed by South Africa and the South-West Africa People's Organization (SWAPO) fighting Pretoria for Namibian independence.

--United States troops to be included in the United Nations peacekeeping force which would monitor a ceasefire and oversee elections.

--An Angolan guarantee that Cuban troops in Angola would not cross in agreed line north of the Angolan frontier with Namibia.

The ARGUS said the delegation, which left yesterday for a rendezvous with Mr Crocker at an unspecified destination in Europe, was led by Foreign Ministry Director Brand Fourie and included the administrator-general of Namibia, Danie Hough, and South Africa's ambassador to the United Nations, Adriaan Ecksteen.

The German-language newspaper in the Namibian capital of Windhoek, ALLGEMEINE ZEITUNG, reported yesterday that parties to the conflict over Namibia had reached a consensus and also gave January 1 as an independence date.

The paper said that South Africa had agreed to the U.N. plan for Namibian independence under Security Council Resolution 435, slightly modified by the Western Contact Group of Britain, Canada, France, the United States and West Germany. The modifications included a complex formula guaranteeing individual rights and drawing up a constitution before instead of after elections, the report added, quoting West German diplomatic sources.

South African Foreign Minister Roelof Pik Botha today did not confirm or deny that a meeting was taking place with Mr Crocker. He told South African radio that discussions on Namibia between South Africa and the contact group--whose foreign ministers are to meet in New York on September 24--were to be expected.

ZIMBABWE

SALISBURY REJECTS POSSIBILITY OF SUMMIT WITH BOTHA

CA191124 Salisbury Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 19 Sep 81

[Text] A government spokesman has dismissed the idea of a summit meeting between the prime minister, Comrade Mugabe, and his South African counterpart, Mr P.W. Botha, as impossible. The spokesman said Zimbabwe will not be involved in a summit with South Africa as long as the regime pursues it apartheid policies and continues to violate the territorial integrity of black countries in southern Africa. He was reacting to a suggestion by a South African opposition spokesman for moves to stage such a meeting between the two leaders.